

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

## The Long and Winding Road

### 62 Gay, Lesbian Cyclists Raise \$33,000 to Fight AIDS

#### Jim Ferels Resigns as Head of S.F. AIDS F'dtn.

by Allen White

San Francisco AIDS Foundation Executive Director Jim Ferels will resign his position May 31 after just one year on the job. His resignation is contained in a letter to the foundation board. Tonight (Thursday) the foundation board will meet with Ferels to consider the implications of his decision.

The choice to resign was made by Ferels because he felt he was "burnt out." Ferels said his departure is amicable. He has been given credit for bringing the organization from a small group dealing with the beginning of the AIDS crisis to a solid firmly-based social service corporation. He began work at the foundation on May 15,

(Continued on page 4)



Pedaling for Pride '85. Vanguard of 62 cyclists rolls down Fell Street at the Panhandle early Saturday morning on first leg of arduous 100-mile journey to Russian River. One-third of the cyclists were women. (Photo: Rink)

#### 57 Complete Run From City to River

by Brian Jones

ON STATE HWY. 1 NEAR BODEGA BAY — It had come down to this, 83 miles north of the Castro Theater: Can Gene make it? Should we let him try? The 64-year-old retired Hayward school teacher had already pushed himself farther than he ever had before: 83 miles, pumping up Mount Tam, around the hair-pin curves near Stinson Beach, up the long, high hill near Valley Ford. He had started with the pack at Castro Street at 7:33 that morning. Now it was 5:30, ten hours later, and Gene was wobbly. Except for Gene, the cyclists were already at the Russian River, or nearly there.

Could Gene make it? Would we let him try?

We had a conference there on the side of the road, kelly green pastures behind us, the blank and slate-grey Pacific in front.

(Continued on page 18)

## Gay Landlords in Gay Area Won't Rent to Gay Parade

### Duboce Dentists Say They Are Concerned About Frightening Their Straight Patients Over AIDS

by Will Snyder

Just 12 weeks before the Freedom Day Parade, the parade committee finally has a home—after being denied an office by two Gay landlords. The landlords, parade officials say, balked at renting to the group when they learned the words "Lesbian" and "Gay" would appear in the window. Being denied an office in a Gay-owned building in the heart of the Gay Church-Market neighborhood was the culmination of the parade's longstanding housing woes.

(Continued on next page)



Not For Rent if "Lesbian" and "Gay" are shown; Rick Turner and Autumn Courtney of Parade Committee at Duboce office. (Photo: Rink)

## IN THIS ISSUE

**CITY FIRES MEDIC** accused of harassing, refusing to help Gay man with AIDS. For the first time, city carries out policy to discipline workers with AIDS-phobia. Ray O'Loughlin reports on **Page 4**. **CURTAIN MAY FALL** on Japan Town Theater—site of many a Gay event. The plan? A 10-screen movie house. Allen White reads the script on **Page 11**.

**CLOSE THE BATHS?** Is this deja vu? No—it's a very current proposal from some conservative Republicans. One problem: All but one of the bath-houses are closed. **Page 13**.

**SPIRITS WERE RISING** for Easter, and for once, all the guys were trying to top each other—with their bonnets, of course. We hop along the bunny trail on **Page 14**.

**MISSION: VALLEJO.** Primed with suitable fear and loathing, Jon Sugar does—uh—missionary work up San Pablo Bay way. He visits mall where fag-killers hung out. **Page 20**.

## Choristers May Strike, Block 'Ring' Festival

### Singers Upset With Pay Scale; Vote on Contract Next Week

by George Heymont

What could be bigger than the *Ring* cycle in San Francisco this June? Answer: a strike of the opera in May. Current indications are that the San Francisco Opera chorus will reject a contract offer set for its general membership meeting next week.

(Continued on page 4)



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By DR. RICK PETTIT

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# Parade Finally Finds Home

(Continued from previous page)

Parade organizers last week did find a space, another office, at 335 Noe (near Market). There will be an office-warming party April 17.

But when the parade committee meets from 5 to 8 p.m., it hopes not only to welcome new volunteers and have a good time in its new location, it also intends on reflecting that 335 Noe Street was not the first choice for 1985 Parade Headquarters.

What led the group to settle on the location points out the difficulties Gay people face at times not just in San Francisco but in a San Francisco Gay neighborhood.

The committee decided earlier this year that its second floor office space in the Valencia Rose didn't suit its needs. A search began to find a storefront location which would better reach foot traffic. Such a location was found at 773 14th Street, right in the heart of the Church and Market Street area.

"We were excited, very excited," said Konstantin Berlandt, the co-chair of the parade committee. "We had a need for a central location. It was right in the heart of the Church/Market area, close to Castro and transportation and it was wheelchair accessible."

"We thought," he added, "it seemed perfect."

The committee began negotiations with the landlords—two dentists, William Morgan and Eugene Sigler—and all seemed to be moving toward a new place to work. Rent was \$550 per month for the first two months and \$600 per month after that. The parade group gave notice to the Valencia Rose that it was moving out and a deposit check was being prepared for the two dentists.

Then came the hitch.

"All of a sudden we got notice to hold the deposit," said Barbara Cameron, co-chair for the committee.

Morgan and Sigler explained there was a problem. They were moving their offices from their current Sacramento Street location to the back of 773 14th Street. According to Berlandt and Cameron, the dentists said the committee couldn't use the words "Lesbian" or "Gay" in any window display.

"One thing they were afraid of was our putting photos of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in the windows," Cameron said. "They have some nuns who were clients and they were afraid of offending them."

"They gave us the impression that they were afraid of scaring away their heterosexual clients," she said.

When asked whether he and Morgan objected to the use of the words "Lesbian" and "Gay" in the window display, Sigler denied the accusation.

"That's not an accurate statement," said Sigler.

However, two witnesses who accompanied Berlandt and Cameron to a meeting with the two dentists disputed Sigler's denial.

"I do remember him being very blunt about it," said Evelyn Forsman, editor of the *Duboce Triangle News*. "He said there was so much concern about AIDS that he didn't want 15 percent of his patients exposed to the problem. I remember him not liking the word, 'Gay.'"

Norm Nickens, a member of the admission department for the New College Law School, agreed with Forsman.



Parade Co-Chairs, Barbara Cameron and Konstantin Berlandt. (Photo: Rink)

## Parade Set for June 30

The Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade is set for Sunday, June 30. The Parade Committee is now located at 335 Noe Street, just south of Market. The telephone number is 861-5404.

"I specifically asked him (Sigler) whether he objected to the words, 'Lesbian and Gay,' in some sort of sign in the window and he said, 'Yes,'" said Nickens.

Sigler insisted that Lesbian and Gay rights are not the questions which should be raised.

"Our last tenant was Gay," said Sigler. "Gay discrimination is not the issue. I object to the way the committee is trying to bully us."

Sigler pointed out that the political aspects of the committee are what forced him and his colleague to change their minds.

"We thought it was to be just a place for the committee to meet," he said, "not some campaign headquarters. I wouldn't rent out space to either the Democrats or the Republicans."

"All I wanted to see in that space was some business or boutique, something with a low profile," he added.

The alleged misunderstanding between the two parties left the traditionally political and high profile parade committee in dire straits according to Cameron.

"They really did put us in a bind," she said. "We had given notice already and we were very concerned about finding office space with the parade not that far away (June 30)."

According to Berlandt, this is not the first time there has been some difficulty for the committee.

"We've had it happen before," Berlandt said. "We had a landlord on 18th Street who was concerned that his windows would be broken if the words 'Lesbian and Gay,' were used."

Berlandt said there was another irony in the whole scenario.

"I seem to remember Morgan telling me that he was a medical monitor for the parade in the past," Berlandt said. Morgan refused to be interviewed by *The Bay Area Reporter*.

"It was shocking to experience homophobia from some people who you feel are your own people," Berlandt said. "It was ludicrous to experience it and we have no choice but to refer to the anti-discrimination ordinance which protects Lesbian and Gay people."

The phones were turned on at 335 Noe Street Monday afternoon. The office-warming party is coming up on April 17. And, Cameron has something else she wants to add for the window.

"I'm going to get a picture of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence," she said.

W. Snyder

## Strict Parking Rules Enforced South of Market

The weekend of April 5 to 7 some 110 parking tickets were issued in the South of Market area. The recent influx of numerous patrons from outlying Bay Area locations for night life entertainment at the Oasis on 11th and Folsom Streets and Lipps at 9th and Howard Streets has created a parking scarcity previously unknown in the Miracle Mile area.

The heavy concentration of vehicles which park in drive-ways, bus zones and fire hydrant areas has prompted the San Francisco Police Dept. Traffic Bureau to act on numerous complaints by local residents and a stepped-up program has been initiated.

Weekend visitors to the South of Market are cautioned to insure they park their vehicles in legal parking spaces and to avoid parking in marginal spaces, in driveways, posted no-parking signs on warehouse doors and in red zones.

Mister Marcus



# '85 Parade Budget Tops \$200,000

**Effort Is 'In the Black'  
But Volunteers, Donors Needed**

by Charles Linebarger

Income for this year's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade is estimated by the Parade's Board of Directors to run as high as \$201,314. Expenditures have been pinned in advance at \$172,589. Last year income was planned at \$140,000, expenditures at \$125,000. Both projections were met last year and income was greater than expected.

Financial strategy for this year's parade was charted on Sunday night by the Parade Board of Directors in the 4th floor art gallery at the Women's Building. Last year's co-chair, Linda Boyd, and this year's co-chairs, Barbara Cameron and Konstantin Berlandt, were in attendance.

The major sources of income for this year's parade include \$50,000 from the parade program (ad sales); \$30,000 from the sale of T-shirts, buttons, etc.; \$35,000 from fundraising; \$20,700 from the City Hotel Tax Fund; \$15,000 from parade booth sales; \$26,000 from beer sales; and \$6,500 from the Golden Gate Business and the San Francisco Foundations.

The \$20,700 grant to the parade from the City Hotel Tax Fund is an increase of \$7,700 over the \$13,000 grant last year. While a hefty increase, it is still far short of the \$38,000 the city is giving the Chinese New Year's Parade this year, and less than the \$23,000 the city is giving the Columbus Day Parade. This is despite the figures from the offices of the Hotel Tax Fund

which show that the Chinese and Gay parades draw equal-sized crowds of spectators—approximately 400,000 people. Attendance at the Columbus Day Parade is estimated at half that, or about 200,000 spectators.

The number of tourists drawn to a parade who spend the night is an even more important figure, financially, to the city. According to Kim Fowler of the Hotel Tax Fund, something like a third of all the out-of-towners drawn to the Gay Day Parade stay overnight in the city. She estimated the figure is closer to 25 percent for the Chinese New Year's Parade.

Changes are being planned by the Parade Board of Directors. "We're submitting a \$40,000 budget next year" to the City Hotel Tax Fund, co-chair Cameron said. "And we've got a professional grant writer."

As for the threat that the specter of AIDS might pose in keeping crowd sizes down this year for the parade, co-chair Berlandt said, "Every year we make some advances—for example the Academy Award for



City's Biggest Bash is the Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, annually drawing a quarter million or more people. This shot is of last year's parade after it reached City Hall. (Photo: Rink)

Harvey Milk this year and the Oklahoma decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. And sometimes we suffer some losses, this year, in Houston. We need to respond to the AIDS crisis as we did in '77 when attendance at the parade tripled after the Dade County defeat (of the Gay right's ordinance)."

Cameron said the parade is the Gay and Lesbian community's chance to respond to threats to its civil rights. "It's our chance for visibility," Cameron said.

When asked why projected expenditures have gone up almost \$50,000 since last year's parade, Cameron pointed out

that the cost of office space has gone up along with stage rental costs, postage costs, portable toilet costs, walkie talkie costs, and etcetera. And in addition, the parade is increasing its press run of the Parade Program by 50 percent. The total printing bill this year is \$26,000.

This year's parade is dedicated to Bobbi Campbell, "as a symbol of the many people with AIDS," According to Cameron.

Cameron and Berlandt both stressed that volunteers are needed for either short term or long term tasks. For information call 861-5404 and ask for Konstantin or Barbara. ■

## Fundraiser Set for Big Peace March

The Spring Mobilization for Peace, Jobs and Justice is holding a fundraiser party on Saturday, April 13 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the home of Larry Cruz, 483 Dolores St. (near 18th St.), San Francisco. A donation of \$5 is asked; refreshments provided; no host bar. The Mobilization will be held Saturday, April 20 beginning at 12 noon. For further information, call 771-0882. ■

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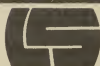
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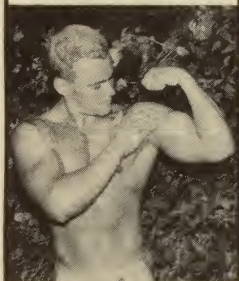
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# Ferels Quits at AIDS F'dtn.

(Continued from page 1)

1984. During the past year he has led the AIDS Foundation as it has developed a solid internal and external operating structure and established defined short- and long-term goals.

To be successful, Ferels has been forced to commit himself to 14 hour days and weekend work for almost the entire time of his employment at the foundation. The stress and the hours became so absorbing that, according to Ferels, he had to make a choice in his personal life. The choice is to leave at the end of May and move with his lover to San Angelo, Texas.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board of Directors will meet this evening in executive session. At that time he plans to outline his views regarding the reasons for his resignation and present positive suggestions the foundation might take in the future.

The resignation of Jim Ferels is another surfacing of the reality that San Francisco is in the midst of a major health epidemic. As of March 31, more than 1,061 AIDS cases had been reported in San Francisco. One year ago, at the end of March, 1984, 175 people had died in San Francisco of AIDS. One year later the number jumped to 505 as of March, 1985. In San Francisco in 1985, Health Department statistics report that an average of two people a day are being diagnosed with the disease and, with the figures on the increase, more than one person a day is dying.

As Executive Director of the AIDS Foundation, Jim Ferels has had to face this overwhelming crisis. He has had to manage many jobs, any of which could be viewed as full time. He has



Jim Ferels (Photo: Rink)

been charged with lobbying for more money to educate people to the disease. This money comes from grants and several layers of government agencies. He has been responsible for the proper reporting of information to assure the continuance of grants.

Ferels also has been in the center of controversy surrounding the closure of the San Francisco bathhouses. Additionally, he oversees the human side of working with people who have AIDS or AIDS related conditions.

As the AIDS Foundation Board meets it is going to have to face the obvious situation that the job is now larger than can be dealt with effectively by one person. It will also have to face the fact that funds to operate the foundation are severely limited. The total annual budget is approximately one million dollars.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation operates with a paid staff of 22 people. Mitch Bart, who began as a volunteer, is now Deputy Director.

In discussing his departure from the foundation, Ferels said he felt he had been an effective agent for change. Throughout his year on the job he credits the people with AIDS as being the most supportive.

He was firm in stating that no fault can be placed for his choice to leave. "The problem is not people," he said, "it is the syndrome. AIDS is a consuming disease and it is taking its toll in many ways on our community." As he talked he continually focused on the intensity and the stress of working with the scope of this crisis.

He praised the foundation board of directors and said his relationships had been a positive one. He did say that he believed the board members are also under severe stress. "Most members of the board have become overextended," he said, as they have had to deal with their personal responses to pressures of the AIDS epidemic.

The departure of Jim Ferels is a serious and dramatic evidence of the swiftly moving dimensions of this health crisis. The AIDS Foundation is not yet three years old. It began in the spring of 1982 in a small one-room office on Castro Street. At the time it was called the KS Foundation.

At the end of March, 1982 there had only been a total of 35 cases reported in San Francisco. By contrast, 70 cases were reported last month just in this city.

There has been no indication of who will succeed Jim Ferels in the position he vacates. It is believed that the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board will issue a statement following its meeting tonight.

A. White

## Chorus May Strike

(Continued from page 1)

While many San Franciscans eagerly anticipate this summer's multi-million dollar Ring festival at the San Francisco Opera, recent developments indicate that the entire project could be in serious jeopardy unless members of the San Francisco Opera chorus ratify a new contract. Barring any such labor agreement, the chorus may refuse to appear for costume fittings or music rehearsals which are scheduled to commence April 29.

One Gay chorister who asked not to be identified revealed that in 1981 he had received nearly \$18,000 in full-time wages from the opera company. The same singer (whose current contract prevents him from supplementing his income during daytime hours) estimates that in 1985 he will earn approximately 1 percent less than he did four years ago.

"Normal cost of living increases should have brought my salary up to nearly \$22,500," he claims. "But if you look at the statistics currently before the chorus's AGMA membership, the opera company is really asking us to work daytime rehearsals and the summer festival performances for free."

Notes one industry expert, "Almost two-thirds of the expenses of an opera company are in personnel. Even relatively small wage increases hit the budget hard because the production of opera is a highly labor-

intensive activity."

Choristers represent a crucial artistic element in both Wagner's Goetterdammerung and Weber's Der Freischuetz (two of the operas scheduled to be performed here in June). The chorus claimed less than six percent of the San Francisco Opera's 1984 budget. Current indications are that choristers will reject the administration's proposed contract at a general membership meeting scheduled to take place on April 18.

At a press conference earlier this year, General Director Terence A. McEwen boasted of having brought the San Francisco Opera out of debt. However, more members of the San Francisco Opera's chorus—many of whom are Gay—feel they have been shafted by McEwen's administration.

Current entry level salary for a non-tenured orchestra player is \$25,640 for 21 paid weeks, while the entry level salary for a non-tenured chorister is \$16,010 for 32 paid weeks.

One chorister stressed that, to date, negotiations have not directly involved McEwen. "The administration has been revamped so that Pat Mitchell is now Executive Company Administrator and Terry is primarily a titular head whose chief function is to raise funds."

Other sources indicate that conductor John Pritchard may soon be named as San Francisco Opera's Artistic Director.

Those working for non-profit arts organizations often complain of having to subsidize their art form in order to maintain their jobs.

"If we are to build something beyond ourselves, we must be willing to pay the artists who build it. Even today, artists are the great subsidizers of the arts in America, contributing more than the most munificent governments and the most generous patrons. One cannot build a full musical life on a cadre of part-time musicians," warned critic Martin Mayer at Opera America's 1985 conference in Washington, D.C.

"Most of these people once worked for very low pay. But they won't and can't do it anymore. Laborers in opera, as elsewhere, are worthy of their hire. What we need is not just places for American artists to practice their art, but places where they can hope to earn a living at it," Mayer said.

Opening night of the San Francisco Opera's Ring cycle is scheduled for June 2. Not only will the eyes of the international music world be focused on San Francisco, the Music Critics Association has planned its 1985 annual conference to coincide with the Ring.

If it all comes off without a hitch, San Francisco could add a major triumph to its long and glorious history as an international opera center. If, however, a chorus strike forces cancellation of the Ring cycle, McEwen will end up with mud on his face.

G. Heymont

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# Civil Service Panel Fires Medic Accused of Anti-AIDS Bias

## Lawsuit Says Paramedic Refused to Treat Man With AIDS Who Died 10 Days Later

by Ray O'Loughlin

San Francisco's Civil Service Commission enforced its policy this week that city employees who deny services to people with AIDS will be disciplined. On April 8, the commission voted to approve the November 1984 firing of paramedic Donald Tokarski for mistreating a number of patients, one of them a man dying of AIDS.

Tokarski, a 14-year veteran with the city's paramedic force, had been accused of giving poor medical attention and in some cases physically abusing four patients over a period of a year.

The action of the Civil Service Commission may also hasten the settlement of two Superior Court

lawsuits against the city. One of those suing is Dan Selman, the surviving lover of Joe Alves, whom Tokarski and his partner Robert Emery refused to treat on March 16, 1983. Selman is suing the city for general damages and expenses plus \$250,000 in exemplary damages.

In his lawsuit Selman described his encounter with Tokarski that night and what led up to it. Night Alves, 43, had recently been discharged from the University of California Medical Center despite his need for constant care. Selman, then 48, himself tried to provide round-the-clock care for his lover of 16 years, who was near death.

On the night of March 16, Alves became very agitated and insisted on leaving the couple's apartment despite his weakened condition. Selman, unable to persuade him not to go out, forcibly stopped him, wrestled him to the floor and while holding him still, dialed 911 for help and an ambulance to return Alves to the hospital. He presumed Alves was about to die.

When paramedics Tokarski and Emery arrived, according to Selman's lawsuit, the two casually entered the apartment and looked around. While ignoring Alves, Tokarski opened drawers and emptied bottles of prescription pills on the floor, grinding them into powder, asking "How much of this stuff are you guys high on?"

When they learned Alves was suffering from AIDS, they refused to touch him. Tokarski told Selman, "You boys got yourselves into this, you can get yourselves out." After what Selman recalls as a long conversation and much pleading, Tokarski told him, "We're leaving now. If you want him in the wagon, you're going to have to carry him yourself."

By this time, Alves had calmed down and said he would walk to the ambulance. With Selman's help, he got to the front

door where Alves began having a seizure. Selman picked him up to carry him. But, already exhausted, lifting Alves wrenched Selman's back. "I felt like I'd been struck by lightning," he said. He collapsed on top of Alves, both men falling on the steps in the rain.

At that point, the medics placed Alves in the ambulance and took him to San Francisco General Hospital. He was then transferred back to U.C. Medical Center where he died 10 days later. Selman also was taken to SFGH where he spent a week and a half recovering from the injury to his lower spine. He still suffers back pain.

The incident involving Alves and Selman is one of four resulting in formal complaints against Tokarski. In another case, he allegedly ordered and pushed a Black woman out of his ambulance while uttering racist remarks. In a third instance, Tokarski failed to treat a man with severe internal hemorrhaging. For that medical misjudgment, he was suspended in 1984 for three days without pay.

Tokarski claimed he has been disciplined unfairly by being fired. He said others found making similar mistakes have been treated less harshly. He told the Civil Service Commission that "it's been a nightmare for me." He denied Selman's allegations, saying, "I would never refuse to carry an AIDS patient." He said that Selman insisted on carrying Alves himself and that the two didn't fall on the steps but sat down.

But attorney for the Department of Public Health Al Schaaf, pointed out that Tokarski's personnel record was one of poor job performance with low evaluations in addition to the recent complaints. "The Broderick Street incident (Alves and Selman) would have been enough by itself" to justify firing Tokarski, Schaaf told the commission. According to Schaaf, the city attorney's office had concurred with the health department in firing Tokarski even though that move could prejudice the two lawsuits pending against the city.

Today, Dan Selman sees himself as a watchdog on the paramedic program. "I want the city to re-organize its paramedics so that they respond decently to people like Joe and me," he

said. "I'm not going to say 'oh, poor me' and sit back in self-pity. I'm not willing to be a second-class citizen."

His attorney, Rick Stokes, characterized the firing of Tokarski as "a lesson that needs to be taught and only the people on top at the department (of health) can teach it." Referring to the string of complaints against Tokarski, he said, "It's an insult and outrageous that you have a man on the force with all this going on."

No action has been taken against Tokarski's partner, Robert Emery, although he has been named a defendant in Selman's suit. Authorities said evidence against Emery was insufficient to warrant disciplinary action against him.

## GRNL Receives Legacy

GRNL Executive Director Nancy Roth announced at the organization's Board of Directors meeting, March 23, "We have a check for \$81,689.22 in our account."

The donation is a legacy from the estate of Charles Passage, a long-time GRNL member from upstate New York. Apparently a college professor, Passage wrote and translated a number of books and gave GRNL the royalty income from them. Royalty income is expected to be several thousands of dollars per year.

The unexpected legacy will allow the Lobby to pay off most of its debts and to begin its new fiscal year on a sound financial footing. Plans are being developed to invest part of the nestegg in order to generate future income.

GRNL presently administers a program of deferred giving. "We have lots of ideas for encouraging others to remember us in their wills, and some innovative ways for people to make money from their investments and name us as the beneficiaries of living trusts and/or life insurance policies," Roth stated.

Individuals interested in exploring options for increasing their incomes during their lifetimes and benefiting GRNL in the future can contact Roth at GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013; (202) 546-1801.

# Cranston Reintroduces Immigration Amendment

## Bill Would Reject Provision That Bars Entry of Gay Aliens

by George Mendenhall

"Aliens afflicted with psychopathic personality, sexual deviation, or mental defect" are now prohibited from visiting or immigrating to this country under the Immigration and Nationality Act. U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D.-California) has reintroduced a bill, authored in 1979, that would strike this section and substitute "aliens afflicted with mental disease or defect."

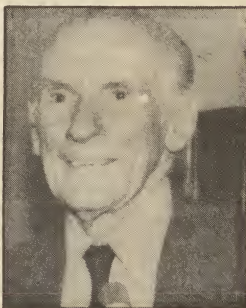
The specific addition of "sexual deviation" was added to the immigration act in 1965 when those words were substituted for "epilepsy." This meant that those entering the U.S. who were suspected of being Lesbian or Gay were detained by the Public Health Service (PHS) for an examination to determine the person's sexual orientation.

Cranston told Congress on Jan. 21 that the American Psychiatric Association declared in 1973 "that homosexuality *per se* is not a mental disorder." In 1979 the PHS announced that it would no longer examine suspected Gay people. But now, the senator explained, "an inept immigration officer, acting alone, can now determine arbitrarily that an arriving alien is to be denied entry solely on the grounds of the officer's suspicions. Meanwhile, other officers may admit closet homosexuals whom they fail to suspect. Such inconsistent enforcement discriminates against the openly homosexual person and those who appear homosexual even though they may not be. This punishes self-respect, honesty and openness."

Cranston pleaded to his colleagues, "Adoption of this legislation will end a form of discrimination which has no valid scientific or medical basis and which violates traditional American respect for the privacy and dignity of an individual."

The legislation (Senate Bill 196) is the third time the senator has introduced the proposed change. It has met sudden death in the past in the Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by Senator Strom Thurmond (R-South Carolina). Thurmond is again expected to oppose the bill.

Cranston originally proposed the immigration change as private legislation to permit a visa to be issued to a Filipino woman who had been denied an opportunity to join her family here solely because she is a Lesbian.



Alan Cranston (Photo: Rink)

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L-Glutamic acid by itself has an extremely limited ability to cross this barrier, and as a result, increased intake of Glutamic acid does not increase the amount of available fuel to the brain. L-Glutamine, however, is one of the few nutrients that can cross this barrier, and is then converted to glutamic acid by the brain and used for fuel. Tests have indicated that L-Glutamine can increase intelligence, improve memory, and revitalize the brain with renewed alertness. Which is why L-Glutamine is called the "smart pill."

L-Glutamine has many other useful and interesting aspects. Tests at the University of Texas have shown that it is extremely effective in the treatment of alcoholism because it has an ability for removing cravings. Similar results have been obtained in removing the craving for sweets.

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VOL. XV NO. 15 APRIL 11, 1985 NEXT ISSUE OUT: APRIL 18 NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 15

## VIEWPOINT

## LETTERS

### No Free Lunch

What would you give to have lunch with the Mayor? It's enticing: 60 minutes of direct access, in private. Most of us won't ever find out. A dozen Gay leaders will, however, tomorrow at noon. The Alice Democratic Club's top brass is having its annual sit-down with Mayor Feinstein.

It is appropriate that Alice leaders meet with the Mayor. They represent the city's largest Gay political club, with more than 500 active members. The club's internal political process keeps the brass exposed to issues affecting the community. None of these reasons has anything to do with why Mayor Feinstein meets with Alice, of course. Feinstein meets with Alice because Alice supported the Mayor in the ill-fated recall two years ago, and has mostly supported her ever since.

What will the Alice leaders discuss with the Mayor? That's a secret. We can't tell you what is on Alice's agenda, so we'll share one of our own.

The Police Department tops our list:

- Six weeks ago, Police Intelligence Captain Dan Murphy—the Chief's brother—promised to meet with Gays. The subject was a surveillance operation aimed at Gay groups during the Democratic Convention. Murphy has broken his promise and has not met with Gays. Feinstein promised that the cops would "open their files" on this case; Murphy has made a liar out of her. What is she going to do about it?

- Four weeks ago, beat cops in the Haight ordered a Gay shop keeper to remove a display of men touching men because they found it "offensive." Does Mayor Feinstein support these Thought Police and their 1984 tactics? Will she order a review of this blatant misuse of police power?

- Last week, Lesbian Police Commissioner Jo Daly—former Alice president—said that Chief Con Murphy can't handle the department and ought to go. What is Mayor Feinstein's response to Daly's statement—keeping in mind that Feinstein appointed Daly to the Police Commission in the first place?

- The Mayor's hostility toward civilian review of the Police Department is a disgrace. The voters made it clear they support a vigorous, efficient civilian review structure; but Feinstein does not. The Mayor's sabotage of the Office of Citizen Complaints subverts the wish of the electorate. We hope Alice will remind her of the mandate for police review.

There are other issues:

- The Health Department has all but declared war on the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. City health officers are jealous of the Foundation's power in the AIDS epidemic. All the Foundation's funding goes through the Health Department, and the department has lately been putting a real squeeze on the AIDS Foundation. This is one of the reasons the Foundation's executive director, Jim Ferels, has resigned. We urge the Mayor to tell her health bureaucrats to shape up or ship out.

- And let us not forget Domestic Partners Benefits. The Mayor goes on at length about Gays' promiscuity presenting a health danger to everyone. And yet, where is her support of our efforts to create stable, long-term relationships? The Mayor doesn't like singles bars—but she opposes Domestic Partners at every turn.

And here we get to the point of tomorrow's lunch. Who will Alice represent? Will they ask the hard questions on behalf of the community? Or will they praise and stroke the Mayor in hopes of winning more appointive city positions, and the salaries which come with them?

Age-old axiom: There is no such thing as a free lunch.

Brian Jones

### Succes de Scandale

★ Regarding the recent article to appear on your pages, "Cocaine for Christ" about Bobby Kent and his career, I would like to point out a disservice which your paper has done to the language we speak.

Mr. Sugar, the writer, would have us believe that to be grossly offensive equates to being clever and humorous, and that being vulgar equates to rattling priggish sensibilities. His accusing Mr. Kent of committing a felony, and inviting the writer to join him, is not an intimate glimpse into a friend's life, but merely a slanderous attempt to draw attention.

Mr. Sugar, in his own sweet way, has made an unfortunate mistake.

The concept of *succes de scandale* teaches us that it is the subject of the scandal that receives recognition and publicity, and not its reporter. The reader is endeared to Bobby Kent, but not by the article's lurid tone. We feel for Bobby because of the sad human failing which we all, at one time or another, have shared—a mistake in choosing one's friends. In this case, the would-be friend turned out to be nothing more than a debased voyeur.

One assumes that Mr. Sugar will continue in his efforts to draw attention to himself by belittling those of character and talent, basking in that most pale and unbecoming of reflected light.

Charlie Hinkle  
San Francisco

### A Band of Outlaws

★ As a San Francisco taxpayer, I am outraged to say the least, at the Key Stone cops dirty capers in our once proud city. Police Chief Murphy tells the whole country on TV it's only 30 or more who are the rotten apples in the police barrel. If Police Chief Murphy knows who these 30 trouble makers are, then they should be fired. A slap on the wrist or passing the buck is one big joke. These low IQ poor excuses for police officers are covering the whole police department in a cloud of suspicion and distrust.

The law breakers, as I see it, are a band of outlaws within the department. They meter out their own brand of illegal justice while the police brass look the other way. How else could these sadistic men in blue get away with it? How long does Police Chief Murphy and Mayor Feinstein think that law abiding taxpayers are going to put up with this nonsense?

The lame brain excuses for these outlaws have to stop. When there is poor supervision, poor accountability and lack of discipline in the rank and file, then the men in blue know that they can get away with anything, and do. The whole country is watching to see if the San Francisco Chief of Police has enough guts to weed these trouble makers out and or bust a few heads.

James Stuart  
San Francisco

### Will She Get Away With It?

★ No matter what the mayor says, up till now her actions have been to reward every excess of the police department. I am sick and tired of hearing her make excuses for the blatant abuse of trust that seems to permeate city government. I can't forget that, in opposing the Office of Citizen Complaints, her reasoning seemed to be that the citizens of San Francisco lacked the maturity to demand accountability of the enforcers of the law. Her position was that it was not proper for the police to be accountable to the people who pay their salaries and hers. She fought the will of the people, pulled the teeth of their watchdog, and for good measure spayed it, all at the expense of the citizens. And through this she acquired the reputation of a good financial manager.

In the five years I have lived in San Francisco, the police have worked diligently to earn the reputation they now enjoy. They have indiscriminately beaten newsmen and nurses. They have selectively and arbitrarily used their position of trust to antagonize and intimidate those exercising their right and duty to influence the government. In those years the mayor has consistently defended both the actions and the perpetrators, if not in word then in deed.

This time it was children who were terrorized. For the sake of brevity, I will not expound on my opinion that each of these victims were equally innocent. However, if these hadn't been children I am confident that it would be vacation as usual at City Hall, punctuated occasionally with a dinner for a foreign dictator or stroll down the campaign trail, at city expense, of course. Indeed, so long as it was homosexuals, or those concerned with social issues not dear to the heart of the mayor, a little rough-housing seemed a lively diversion, and if someone was seriously injured, what the hell. The streets are no place for decent, law-abiding citizens, right Lady Die.

I really can't blame the police. Whatever palliatives come from the office of the mayor, the fact is that her Danny Boys can do no wrong. What saddens me is that in this supposedly enlightened city, Warren Hinckle sounds as a voice in the wilderness. What disgusts me is that once again Feinstein will assert that the only solution for the abuse of power is the acquisition of more power. What frightens me is that the only thing that will change is that she will have more power and more disdain for those whom she is sworn to serve and protect. What angers me is that the citizens of San Francisco will listen to her words rather than her actions and she will get away with it.

John Craig  
San Francisco

### It's War

★ I've just run across the most interesting little quote in a book called *A Higher Form of Killing*, by Robert Harris and Jeremy Paxman, which explains some of the history of chemical and biological warfare. After fifty years of accelerating development, the future of CBW was under discussion at the House Committee on Appropriations in Washington in 1969. A Department of Defense spokesman made the following statement:

"Within the next five to ten years, it would probably be possible to make a new infective micro-organism which could differ in certain important respects from any known disease-causing organisms. Most important of these is that it might be refractory to the immunological and therapeutic processes upon which we depend to maintain our relative freedom from infectious disease."

Well, that certainly sounds familiar, doesn't it? Even the timing is right.

Tim Speck  
San Francisco

### Letter Policy

★ The *Bay Area Reporter* welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

# B.A.R.

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# LETTERS

## Ueberroth Stay Home

★ The following was sent to Peter V. Ueberroth.

We, the membership of the Gay Law Students' Association (GLSA) and Lesbians In the Law (LIL) at Hastings College of the Law, are writing to request that you voluntarily withdraw as speaker at our school's commencement exercises.

Your history of anti-Gay activities is the first important reason why you should withdraw. For example, we question your part, as former president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, in the trademark lawsuit against the Gay Olympics. We question what legitimate purpose could be furthered by a lawsuit against a non-profit sponsor of organized competitive games involving Gay and Lesbian athletes. We further question why you, or the U.S. Olympic Committee, have never attempted to prohibit use of the word "Olympics" by any of the other groups and organizations which use the word in describing events which they each sponsor. This lawsuit, as well as public statements implying that the word was somehow tarnished by its association with Gays and Lesbians, demonstrates your homophobic attitudes.

As you must already know, there will be many Gays and Lesbians in the Hastings graduation class. We have worked very hard to complete our degrees. However, we are painfully aware of the bigotry and discrimination against us which is widespread in the legal community. (For example, Hastings own placement office currently welcomes and assists outside employers who openly discriminate against Gays and Lesbians to use the school's placement facilities.) Nevertheless, we are entitled to enjoy our own graduation ceremonies without being directly confronted by the same prejudice and bigotry which awaits us in the legal community. Your presence as the designated speaker at those ceremonies tends only to mock our achievements and adds an unnecessary insult to all of the Gay and Lesbian graduates, to our friends and families in the audience, and to our supporters in the graduating class as a whole.

Moreover, these commencement exercises are intended to inspire in us hope for the future and give us some thoughtful insights and direction as we enter our professional careers. In these regards, you have nothing to offer the graduating Gays and Lesbians at Hastings.

Finally, your withdrawal would be appropriate since the student body did not choose you. The student election for choosing a graduation speaker showed a clear preference for a speaker with a more liberal, humanistic philosophy: a speaker who actively supports the rights of traditionally oppressed minorities. However, the Hastings administration (who just last year tried to prevent the student's duly elected speaker from participating in the ceremonies) has once again decided to ignore the needs and choices of its students in order to impose its own choice of speaker at commencement.

In light of this, we ask that you decline Hastings' invitation to speak at commencement in the hope that another speaker will be invited who can adequately address all of the students' concerns.

Gay Law Students Association  
Lesbians In the Law  
Hastings College of the Law  
San Francisco

## Award to Us All

★ The 57th Annual Academy Awards gave an Oscar to all of the citizens of San Francisco when it awarded the best documentary about our late Supervisor Harvey Milk. This is the city of live and let live. It is the city of hope and let hope. Create and let create. Above all, respect and let respect.

Marvin-Michel McGrier, II, Esq.  
San Francisco

## A Plea For Leadership

★ The following was sent to Juan Gonzalez, editor of *El Tecolote* newspaper.

Dear Juanito,

Last night was warm and pleasant, reminding me of my nights in Tepic when vacations would bring me back to enjoy the people and homeland of my fathers. But last night I was not in Mexico. I was in San Francisco, and I was relishing this warm night by strolling through the Castro, where I now live, because this is now home to me.

The night got hot. Very hot! A band of batos locos, one wielding a baton, came down from the intersection of 18th and Castro Streets, beating people left and right indiscriminately and without provocation as they made their way towards the Mission barrio. Their victims were entirely defenseless people minding their own business. One was a very small guy who was out walking his little dog. Another was a Gay Chicano brother whom they struck in the face; I saw the blood running from his forehead; it was the blood of Raza. Many more fell in the path of these madmen.

The cops finally arrived amidst whistles blowing, car horns honking, people screaming in terror. These batos were so sick. They laughed contemptuously as the police tried to detain them. There were many on-lookers. Some were Latinos coming out of the 7-11 on 18th and Noe. Some were Gay. Whether straight or Gay, they were of many colors. None of us were amused. We were stunned and horrified.

These sick assholes no doubt will use our race and national origin in trying to defend their insane attacks upon innocent, defenseless people. (These victims were not necessarily Gay.) It is the victims whom we must defend. The attackers deserve no protection whatsoever

from the Latino community. For they are the kinds of guys who take harmless Pitbull pups and raise and train them in their own image—pure, unadulterated, insane and vicious animals.

These guys do not reflect the nature or essence of the majority of Raza youth or of the Latino community in general. They are part of a minority of Raza who are denigrated. They beat their women and children and are both the psychic and economic parasites of the barrio.

Juanito, you have long led the struggle for justice in the Mission. We plead with you to continue to lead that struggle and to bring these insane individuals to justice. Many of us have been schooled by you in many settings . . . from the streets of the Mission where we grew up, to the classrooms of San Francisco State University where you instructed us.

Will you not lead us now?

We are in fear for our safety and lives in the streets as it is. You are in a much safer place to initiate this movement among our people. As editor of *El Tecolote*, you can set this crusade for justice into full motion, winning the hearts and minds of all peace-loving, equality-minded Raza. It is the community, enlightened, which will make the difference.

Guadalupe De Castro  
San Francisco

## Feinstein's Sacrosanct Cops

★ Good show, Wayne Friday (*B.A.R.*, 3/28)! You, along with the *San Jose Mercury News*, called your shots right on target. Several weeks ago I wrote a letter to the *B.A.R.* on this same subject which was what (out of charity) I'll call "edited" rather than "censored" but that's O.K. as long as there are other thinking, vigilant people out there.

It's the "good ol' boy" network behind it, of course, coupled with the ultimately, responsible: Police Chief Con Murphy (Has he finished "restoring" his boat yet so he can get to fishing commercially?) and Mayor Dianne Feinstein who, for whatever convoluted reasons, has made the S.F. Police Department virtually sacrosanct during her long tenure. What are they afraid of?

The board of supervisors bears some lesser responsibility for all of this. They should be the "Watchdogs at the Gate" on a constant, consistent basis.

A parting thought: smoke-filled room or no, I'd take Dick Hongisto over Dianne Feinstein any day. He may be a politician, but he also has heart and compassion.

Hank Bonney  
San Francisco

## Lily Lashes

★ Thank you (Mr. Marcus, *B.A.R.*, 4/4) for reminding people of the 4th Annual Lily Street Event. However, the Lily Street party is always "hosted" by the people of the neighborhood. People are provided refreshments (free beer) at each event—including 1985.

As many as 20 sponsors from the neighborhood and beyond donate according to their means and needs in order to welcome many. Last year we gave away 12 half-barrels of beer to over 1000 people, Lily Street is on the borders of Mint Hill, Hayes Valley and the Haight-Fillmore. It is not Terrific Heights. But we share what we can with those who can accept a good neighbor.

In some of the Easter Eggs are CUAV whistles. That is the neighborhood message.

There are no commercial booths, stands or entertainment. There are 1,000 people in silly hats who join together in friendship.

Each year the hosts are given special T-shirts to identify them on that festive day. Someday you will actually attend our event and understand. Your host is your neighbor. Your donation is appreciated, but if not, we share what we can.

Carl Heimann  
One of the Lily-putians  
San Francisco

## Who Controls SFPD?

★ I am sure Wayne Friday would be the last to agree his favorite queen is directly responsible for the mess in her police department.

Being a successful police chief in San Francisco seems to be a matter of popularity; not with San Francisco but with the Police Officers Association. Following the White Night riot, Gaine's popularity, which had always been minimal, plummeted. He was too humane; if a citizen disagrees with you, it is not necessary to crack his skull or kill him. Feinstein was busy toadying for the Chamber of Commerce in China. She communicated she was 100% behind Gaine. When she returned, the police threw such a fright into her, she quickly changed her mind. Gaine was out and good old boy Murphy was in.

Murphy recently said in an interview he feels his popularity began to decline after he disciplined some of those involved in the Rathskeller caper, a peccadillo, if ever there was one. Without popularity he has no control?

Feinstein fancies herself a lady crime buster, however, she is apparently as much afraid of her police as I am.

G. H. Gilchrist  
San Francisco

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## LETTERS

### The Magic of Drag

★ If, as Buster Billie asserts, "Sister Boom Boom is not a Gay expression," I suppose Malcom X was white? Of course, drag is not everyone's cup of tea. Often it's not mine. But let's read the tea and spell it out very carefully for the very slow children among us.

Over thousands of years of patriarchal religious, social, and legal custom men and women have been alienated against each other through mutual ignorance and mystification into artificial roles with members of each sex exaggerating certain natural tendencies, pretending to others, and denying yet others in an effort to conform and be accepted. A basic element of this fraud is enforced heterosexuality.

Gay people threaten the socio-sexual barrier because, even as most of us cling to our gender, Gay men regard men sexually as men are "supposed to" regard women. Change sexes and the same is true of Lesbians. Unlike heteros we can become our sex object fantasies, the barrier between self and object, identity and fantasy, self and other is transcended. Also, Gay and Lesbian couples cannot assign roles in relationships arbitrarily according to gender. We must create our own rules, our own reality.

Such is also the nature of magic practices in pantheist cultures. Thus are ritual dykes and faggots the shamans and preist/esse/s in tribal societies. Through the transcendence of sexual alienation we may also explore other issues of gender role separation. It is not enough for men to be men and women to be women. People are people, with universal qualities and individual traits. Through the altered, affected presentation of drag, the exploration of varied roles and appearances, the transvestite shamans demonstrate that each of us is more than any of us knows. That knowledge, with the incumbent power and responsibility, can be frightening and many among us may prefer not to face it.

Drag is indeed a way of expressing our Gay souls. One among many, and certainly not for all of us. It's just one lurid stripe of a gorgeously omnichromatic rainbow. If we open our hearts and our eyes we can learn so much from each other. Of course wearing a dress is not the final outcome of coming out. However it never fails to bring out a new self-awareness in any man who tries it with an open mind, if only once. I know that wearing heels, a corset, and make-up has taught me more about being a woman than most men ever know. Thus have I learned a lot about being a man, and more importantly, a human being. Wearing leather or a three piece suit and examining the way clothes make the man is also instructive.

If Gay is good, why leave it alone? Exploring Gayness in its depth, breadth, and many manifestations makes it more than just "good" and truly divine.

Blessed be!

Jack Fertig,  
aka Sister Boom Boom  
San Francisco

### Reservations About Swing

★ The following was sent to Episcopal Bishop William E. Swing.

Right Reverend and dear Brother-in-Christ William,

Let us praise the Most Holy Sacrament! Grace and peace be with you in the Name of our Sovereign and Liberator, Jesus the Christ.

This is not an easy letter to write to a brother in the Christian and Catholic Episcopate. Nonetheless, conscience demands that it be written.

As a Christian person with AIDS Related Conditions (ARC), I must first thank you for your good intentions in instituting sacramental Healing Services for people with AIDS and people with ARC, in conjunction with the AIDS Interfaith Network. I truly believe the Spirit of God is at work in this Healing Ministry, and I thank you for that.

Having said that, however, I'm afraid that I must also, as a Christian Gay person with ARC, let you know just how deeply offensive I found some aspects of your homily at the service Monday night.

First, to correct an all-too-common misunderstanding which you seem to share. Despite the proclamations of bigots and the misleading evidence of the San Francisco statistics, AIDS is not a gay disease, but a human disease. On a world-wide basis, if the African, Haitian, Canadian and other non-U.S.A. evidence is considered, AIDS is not even primarily found in Gay men. Granted the statistics in this country—and even more in San Francisco are overwhelmingly Gay, that is at least partially due to the oblique and hierarchical reporting system adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and not a function of reality. Your homily, in stressing the Gay side of the AIDS crisis, added fuel to the homophobic fires surrounding AIDS, even while verbally opposing such homophobia.

Secondly, your Gospel text (John ix.1-11) was quite appropriate to the Rite of Healing. However, the analogy you drew at the end of your homily was unintentionally (at least I hope it was unintentional) homophobic. In the text, the Beloved Disciple tell us: "As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And the disciples asked Jesus, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the Work of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the Work of the One Who sent me, while it is day; night comes when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world...' Insofar as the text goes to describe the healing of the man's congenital blindness—surely an illness—it is clear that such healing of illness and

dis-ease is the "Work of God" to which Jesus refers.

My dear Brother-in-Christ, the clear implication of your analogy is that as blindness is an illness which can be healed by the grace of God through Jesus Christ in Holy Spirit, so also is homosexuality. As a Christian Gay man, I deny that implication; and I affirm that constitutional homosexuality is a gift from God, a "talent" in the Scriptural term, every bit as much as constitutional heterosexuality or bisexuality. Like all gifts or talents which God has given us, it must be invested in God's Work of the spiritual renewal, consecration and transformation of the individual, of humankind and of the earth.

Your analogy of an illness to be cured by the grace of God would, certainly, have worked had you been dealing with the man in your parallel to the Gospel story having AIDS or ARC. It did not work in regard to the man's Gayness; and the homophobic signals it gave out were profoundly distressing to persons with AIDS and persons with ARC who, whether Gay or not, simply do not need that type of judgmental homophobia added to the burden we already bear as a result of our physical illness.

While at the beginning of the service I was somewhat upset that neither the AIDS Interfaith Network nor the Cathedral Staff had thought to contact the People With AIDS organization and/or the People with AIDS/People with ARC Committee of the Mobilization Against AIDS, after your homily I was just as glad that they had not been contacted. That way at least some newly diagnosed people, who are often in a state of psychic shock, were spared the indignity of being exposed to the undoubtedly unconscious and unintentional (but none-the-less hurtful) homophobia of your homily.

I do hope and pray that you will allow some persons with AIDS and persons with ARC, as well as some of the Gay and Gay-sensitive clergy in your diocese, to dialogue with you on this subject, in order that such a psychic and spiritual assault never happens again.

The Rt. Rev'd. Mikhael-Francis Itkin, C.L.C.  
Bishop: St. Thomas Christian & Liberal  
Catholic Ecumenical Synod  
Abbot: The Community of the Love of Christ  
San Francisco

### Safe Sex Porn

★ Mr. R. Repinski in his letter (B.A.R., 3/28) criticizes Richard Locke's safe sex series by calling Locke an "aging film queen." If Repinski still thinks he has a choice between safe and unsafe sex, let him come to the hospital with me and have a man who was young and strong and active a few months ago die in his arms in unbelievable agony.

More power to Locke for choosing life over death. Now, you should excuse the expression, if he'd put his money where his mouth is and make films using only safe sex, it'd be an enormous service to the Gay men around the country and around the world who take his films not as sleaze fantasy but as role models for their sex lives. Go to it, Locke.

Richard Long  
Los Angeles

### The Pits on the Peaks

★ That an elected official would refuse a constituent the courtesy of a hearing, judge him not on the merits or legalities of the case, but whether he "appears" financially solvent, and then be so unconcerned as to publicize her perniciousness is incomprehensible.

Supervisor Nancy Walker's unabashed endorsement of her ally, Sue Hester and sponsor, Dottie Crowder gives this voter pause to wonder if perhaps "I have not chosen my own poison," to borrow the supervisor's words. That error will be rectified in my next trip to the ballot box.

Accolades to the seven supervisors of a different ilk.

Florence P. Murphy  
San Francisco

### Condoms Do the Trick

★ One of your readers, Mr. Pilatz, invited us to research Mr. Locke's claims for condoms. I did. Maybe he isn't so wrong.

The claim isn't that a virus cannot penetrate the rubber, just as the police don't claim you cannot leap one of their barriers. However, you're much less likely to cross the line, and current research is indicating that some viruses and bacteria behave in much the same way.

Condoms are not a perfect defense—they're only 90% effective against syphilis, for example and we don't really know what they might do against AIDS. However, if the cause of AIDS is a virus, and if that virus behaves like other ones, then the condom is of value.

In any case, we know that they're effective against the more traditional diseases, and those diseases are unwelcome visitors. That's why BAPIR's ads make such a distinction between sex with and sex without a condom.

Mind you, a condom is not an alternative to safe sex. It's an alternative to unsafe sex. The only reason for them is that too many people foolishly refuse to give up unsafe sex. We'd be irresponsible not to try to find more palatable alternatives. If Mr. Locke can popularize them, then more power to him.

Gerald R. Hubbell  
San Francisco





## POLITICS AND POKER

### Some Rich News

WAYNE FRIDAY

Financial reports made public last week on our Board of Supervisors and the Mayor show our City Fathers and Mothers run the gamut financially from the wealthy—Kopp, Feinstein and Hongisto—to those appearing to be barely paying the rent—Britt, Walker and Nelder. The state conflict-of-interest law that requires our leaders to report their personal financial holdings annually does little, however, to indicate their real worth, since the law only requires revealing those interests that might cause a conflict of interest when dealing with City business.

The supes and the Mayor are not required to list their personal bank accounts, homes, or property owned outside the City. The reports on file show that Dianne Feinstein is a millionaire—no surprise to anyone. They show that Supervisors Quentin Kopp and Richard Hongisto are clearly in the millionaire category, but what the hell, who said our leaders have to be poor?

At the other end of the financial spectrum seem to be Harry Britt, who exists on his annual \$24,934 salary (with a little help from honoraria received from outside speaking engagements) and Nancy Walker, who did list some investments. If one is to believe the *Examiner* they might send food stamps to Willie Kennedy, but nowhere is it mentioned, and it isn't required to be, that Supervisor Kennedy is the beneficiary of a generous pension from her late husband, as well as owning a large ranch somewhere outside of the City.

No complaints from this corner on the well-to-do status of most of our leaders. People think better and vote more conscientiously when they are well fed.

Speaker Willie Brown took it on the chin last week. First, syndicated columnist Dan Walters accused the Speaker of "presiding over a decline in ethical standards" of the legislature in regards to the current Sacramento scandal involving fireworks magnate Patrick Moriarty, who is accused of having greased the palms of many a Capital legislator. And then, in Wednesday's *San Francisco Progress*, a cartoon suggested that Willie is again using his political muscle by interfering into the problems of his longtime friend Wilkes Bashford (Willie's star beginning to tarnish a little?) . . . Superstar



On the Road. Sup. Louise Renne pedaled with Gay Bike-a-Thon on Saturday from Castro to the Golden Gate. (Photo: Rink)

homophobe Eddie Murphy was keeping up the heat on Gays at his Radio City Music Hall appearance last week: "There's fag mania wherever I go," laughs Murphy . . . in Washington, D.C., the city says it is willing to authorize a \$70 million bond issue for Georgetown University renovation if the University agrees to recognize campus Gay groups. Gays at Georgetown have long complained that they are not given equal access to university facilities.

\* \* \*

One sure way of doing it: When Cathy Long was elected last week to Congress in Louisiana to fill the unexpired term of her late husband, she became the 33rd woman to succeed a husband in the U.S. Congress . . . and Ted Kennedy, regarded as the principal spokesman for traditional Democratic liberalism for years, began sounding like a Republican last week (or maybe a realist Democrat?) when he unofficially kicked off his presidential campaign by proclaiming that "We must be a party that cares about minorities without becoming a minority party," adding that "too many of our public service jobs and public assistance programs have done too little to break the cycle of poverty and dependence; they're counterproductive" . . . and why is it I still feel a little

sorry for Bernhard Goetz, the so-called "subway vigilante," now that the New York D.A. has managed to get the Grand Jury to indict him (keep sending it back until you get it right, seems to be the order of the day in the Manhattan District Attorney's office). A couple of Goetz' Castro-area friends are still betting that the 37-year-old bachelor will beat this, and that his story, when written, will change subway violence in New York forever.

The influential *Sacramento Bee* came out editorially recently in support of the proposed Gay rights ordinance before the Sacramento City Council. A hearing on the ordinance is set for the Council on April 18 and Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin, in support of the legislation, commented that "we went through this with racial minorities; we went through this with women; I don't think we have any right to discriminate against someone because of his or her personal lifestyle." Sacramento City Hall watchers tell the *Bay Area Reporter* that they expect passage of the ordinance that would curb job and housing discrimination against Gays in the capital city . . . Are the Republicans finally the majority party in the United States? A recent Gallup pool revealed that the GOP not only is perceived widely as more likely than the Democratic Party to keep the nation prosperous, but also now leads the Democrats as more likely to keep the nation at peace. This is the first time the Republicans have held a clear-cut lead on both of these issues since the Gallup Poll began these measurements in 1951 . . . Belated birthday wishes to Herb Caen who hit the magic 69th mark last week . . . The Mayor is still taking heat about her cops. The latest blast was from former Chief Charles Gain to Warren Hinckle: "Professional honesty compels me to say that the whole problem with the San Francisco Police Department is Dianne Feinstein; she's too close to the police, that's the problem. Why, the woman's half-cop herself." . . . Look for a motion to censure Sup. Quentin Kopp, the conservative Democrat, at tonight's meeting of the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee. The local Dems are very unhappy with Kopp's highly publicized alliance with the pro-Reagan Citizens for America group. ■

## Alice Calls for Conference On Gays and Quarantine

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, at its general meeting Monday, April 8, unanimously passed a resolution calling for a community conference on quarantine. The resolution, offered by Immediate Past President Randy Stallings, called for an endorsement of the April 4 *B.A.R.* editorial "On Quarantine." The editorial urged a conference on quarantine to be called by all four local Gay political clubs, to be mediated by Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights.

chided District Attorney Arlo Smith for seeking to "censor" the Mitchell Brothers' O'Farrell Theatre and Market Street Cinema. Smith is prosecuting the theatres in a lawsuit alleging that prostitution takes place on the premises. Alice called the action "harassment."

Numerous recent arrests at

the theaters have been made, but have been thrown out by judges as lacking foundation. The Mitchell Brothers have proposed a negotiated settlement with Smith promising to abide by the law, in return for Smith dropping the city lawsuit. So far, however, Smith has refused to negotiate a settlement. ■

B. Jones



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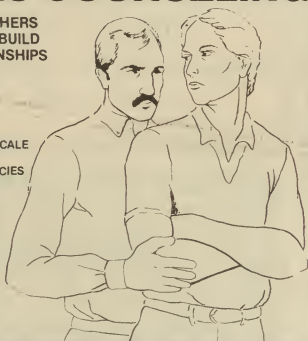
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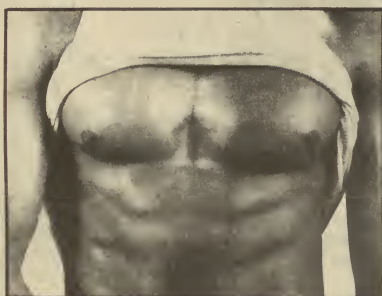
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## DATELINE: THE WORLD

### Miami Gay Bookstore in Battle Over Censorship

DION B. SANDERS



A Gay bookstore in Miami has been forced under the city's zoning laws to remove "adult" literature from its shelves to avoid being shut down.

Among the materials that the Lambda Passages bookstore has been forced to remove included the *Gay Community News* of Boston and *The Weekly News* of Miami.

At issue was the fact that Lambda Passages was selling "adult" materials in an area zoned only for the sale of "general" literature.

City zoning inspector Robin Henry, accompanied by a police officer, inspected the store's stock and told one of the store's four co-owners, "We're going to close down this place because this is a pornographic store."

Specific materials that drew the ire of the inspector included Gay skin magazines such as *Mandate*, *Honcho*, *In Touch*, and *Blueboy* and the classified section of *The Advocate*.

Jerry Sprouse, one of the store's co-owners, insisted that Lambda Passages was a Gay bookstore in the mold of the Oscar Wilde Bookshop in New York, Lambda Rising in Washington, D.C., Giovanni's Room in Philadelphia and the Walt Whitman Bookshop in San Francisco.

"The books we carry are from Simon and Schuster, Random House and Gay Sunshine Press."

Sprouse said he and his attorney met with the city's acting zoning administrator, Joseph Genuardi, and presented him with an assortment of the bookstore's materials.

Sprouse showed Genuardi a copy of *The Joy of Gay Sex*, which includes sexually graphic drawings, and asked if he thought that it was "adult" literature. Genuardi answered yes.

Sprouse's attorney then told Genuardi that the book was borrowed from the Miami Public Library, to which Genuardi reportedly replied, "We're not citing the public library."

Asked why inspector Henry was accompanied by a police officer, Genuardi said that "The young lady was shy about going in by herself, (so) she asked (the officer) to go with her," adding that Henry wasn't sure "what reaction she'd get."

Henry had conducted two inspections of the store, the first time unaccompanied. According to co-owner Carlos Ocampo, Henry told them she would notify them if there was a problem, but Genuardi acknowledged that there was no follow-up.

What prompted the second inspection was a news article in the *Miami News* about a panel discussion on safe sex in the AIDS crisis inside the bookstore.

A police spokesman acknowledged that under the circumstances, the request by Henry for police accompaniment was "unusual."

\*\*\*

### Fundies Stall Job Bias Bill

A proposed ordinance to expand Seattle's existing Gay anti-discrimination law to all of King County has been returned for review by a county council committee in the face of vitriolic protests by anti-Gay Christian fundamentalists.

The ordinance would have outlawed employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, an addition to existing prohibitions based on race, religion, gender and disability.

Such protections have already been on the books within the city of Seattle since 1980.

After two days of highly emotional testimony, the council voted 6-3 to review the measure's enforcement provisions in committee.

The vote was prompted in part by nearly eight hours of heated testimony by supporters and opponents of the bill—with opponents mounting "an extremely emotional and vitriolic campaign based on fear and hatred," according to a spokesman for the Dorian Group, a statewide Gay rights organization.

One councilmember who has not taken a position on the ordinance has received several thousand telephone calls, with 90 percent of the callers "vehemently" opposed to the measure, according to an aide.

Asked why they opposed the bill, the aide said, the overwhelming majority cited fear of AIDS. Public hysteria over AIDS has been cited as the chief cause of a rash of violent anti-Gay assaults in the Broadway area of Seattle in the summer of 1983.

Supporters of the bill included the Washington State Conference of (Catholic) Bishops, the League of Women Voters, state and city employee unions, the Seattle Council of Churches and the Washington State Association of Professional Psychologists and the King County Democratic Party central committee.

None, however, were prepared for the magnitude and vehemence of the opposition, spearheaded by Councilmember Paul Barden and the Full Gospel Fellowship Association, a fundamentalist Christian businessmen's club.

Foes of the bill brought in anti-Gay psychologist Paul Cameron, and bombarded the council members—several of whom face re-election next November—with letters, telegrams and phone calls.

Council members who support the bill have also received death threats, according to *Seattle Gay News* Editor Steve Bakan. "The organized fundamentalist effort is absolutely incredible, and the councilors are intimidated as hell by it," Bakan said.

\*\*\*

### Bi Woman Guilty in Killing of Bi Man

A San Diego criminal court jury has found a bisexual woman guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the killing of a bisexual man in a motel room after a heated argument over each other's sexual orientation.

Kimberly Gomez was convicted of killing Troy Raynor a year ago on Raynor's 24th birthday with a shotgun blast after the two engaged in an argument at the Silverado Motel in Imperial Beach.

Gomez, 22, of San Diego, was at the time living with Raynor's former wife, with whom Deputy District Attorney Gary Rempel believed she was in a Lesbian

relationship.

In the course of the argument, Gomez called Raynor "a closet-case faggot, bastard and punk," and Raynor called Gomez "a Lesbian bitch."

Gomez' attorney, John Cot-sirilos, did not dispute the fact that Gomez killed Raynor, telling the jury that Gomez feared for her life and shot Raynor in self-defense.

But a prosecution witness testified that after Raynor yelled at Gomez, "If you're man enough to fight, let's fight!" Gomez pointed the shotgun at Raynor, saying, "All right, Troy! Now do you want to call me a cunt?"

"Go ahead and shoot me, bitch!" the witness quoted Raynor as responding. "You haven't got the guts!"

At that point, Gomez fired the shotgun.

Judge James Malkus allowed Gomez to remain free on \$5,000 bail pending a sentencing hearing next Wednesday.

Gomez faces a maximum sentence of six years in prison. She was originally charged with second-degree murder, which on conviction, could have brought Gomez a sentence of 25 years to life imprisonment.

\*\*\*

This week's items are based on reports in the *Gay Community News of Boston*, the *Seattle Gay News* and *Update of San Diego*.

## HRCF Campaign

Tony-winning playwright Harvey Fierstein and best-selling novelist Rita Mae Brown have agreed to become the honorary co-chairs for the 1985 Human Rights Campaign Fund fundraising drive.

Fierstein, who has received dozens of awards, including two Tony Awards for his hit plays *Torch Song Trilogy* and *La Cage aux Folles*, has been active with the Gay political action committee in the past. He has chaired two of the PAC's annual black-tie fundraising dinners at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

Rita Mae Brown has won acclaim for her novels and script-writing talents. She has had three novels on the *New York Times* best-sellers lists, including *Rubyfruit Jungle* and *Southern Discomfort*. She was nominated for an Emmy Award for her work on Norman Lear's *I Love Liberty* television special, and she received the 1981 Writer's Guild of America Award for Best Variety Show for the same project.

"We are delighted to have two such well-known and respected individuals lending their time and talents to HRCF's fundraising drive," said Vic Basile, executive director of the Campaign Fund. "We are looking forward to our most successful campaign cycle so far and, with the help of Harvey Fierstein and Rita Mae Brown, we're confident our ambitious goals for 1986 will be realized."

HRCF is the only national political action committee dedicated to furthering the political and social objectives of the Gay community. It is about to enter its sixth year of operation and has become one of the largest independent political action committees in the United States.



# Curtain May Fall At Japan Theatre

## Site of Many Gay Affairs Planned to Become Film Complex

by Allen White

English Gay rock group Bronski Beat and the Closet Ball, in two separate events, may bring down the final curtain on the Japan Center Theater. Queenie Taylor, spokesperson for Producer Bill Graham, confirmed that they are trying to get theater availability in late May to bring Bronski Beat to what many call the Kabuki Theatre. The Robert Michael Production of the annual "Closet Ball" is already firmly set for Saturday May 4, and is sold out.

American Multi-Cinema Inc. has bought an option to gut the theater and replace it with a 10-theater complex with auditoriums ranging in size from 50 to 500 seats. The deal is a grab bag of legal complexities, including city approval to make the change.

Transformation of the Kabuki would be a blow to a number of Gay Community events which have found a home there over the years. Foremost among these has been the Cable Car Awards.

In the meantime, current theater management has been instructed to not book the theater past May 15. Bill Graham's organization has been trying to extend that deadline to the end of the month. If they are successful, they will book two concerts into the theater. One of the groups scheduled to appear will be Bronski Beat.

Robert Michael Production of "The Closet Ball" has been set and is firm for presentation on Saturday, May 4. The highly popular and successful event has been sold out for weeks. It has traditionally become one of the most popular events in the Gay community. The first half of the show features guys who have never previously appeared in drag. Following an hour intermission they return to the stage transformed by designers, hair stylists and makeup artists into images of the most fashionable and glamorous of women. A secret of the event's continuing success has been their rule that the entrant must never have previously appeared anywhere in public in drag. Coupled with flawless production qualities, the event could be the Gay com-

munity's farewell to the Japan Center Theater.

Pushing against this remodeling effort will be heavy pressure from groups representing many communities. For the theater to be changed will require going over several civic hurdles, including the Planning Board, the powerful and politically sensitive Planning Commission, and possibly the Board of Supervisors.

It is known that many in the Japanese community are opposed to the change. The facility has been made available for Japantown groups for fund raising activities and large events connected with celebrations such as the annual Cherry Blossom Festival.

Last February, Supervisor Louise Renne went publicly on record at the Cable Car Awards as opposing the change of the theater. She noted the lack of adequate theater space that exists in the city and denounced the effort to eliminate the facility for live theater.

The theater is favored by many because of its unique design and medium size capacity which, with table seating, can range from 1,000 to 1,400. There are three stages, the main center stage being one of the largest in San Francisco, with a width exceeded only by the San Francisco Opera House. Because there is table seating, rather than auditorium row seating, drinks can be served at shows. Several sources claim that it is the favorite concert presentation site in San Francisco of concert promoter Bill Graham.

In addition to heavy pressure



Say Goodbye to Japantown if theater proposal goes through. Among events affected: the Closet Ball. (Photo: Rink)

by the Japanese community, the theater community and the Gay community, it is also known there is concern by local residents of a parking problem. There is a garage adjacent to the theater which is little used. Opponents of the 10-theater complex state that the garage will not satisfy parking needs and additional parking congestion will take place in the area.

Parking, a citywide problem, may be the number one hurdle, because of irate (and voting) residents. Sandy Mori, director of a Japantown senior citizens program, said the theater plan could lead to serious problems. "Traffic and security will be worse for people living here if

you believe that a million people a year might come here to watch movies."

The appearance of Bronski Beat is assured to be a success if the date is booked. Their current hit, "Smalltown Boy," about a young Gay shunned by his parents and peers, is a major hit in the area. MCA Records is now in the process of releasing "Why?" another cut from their album "Age of Consent." Though it is rumored the group might have problems getting visas into the United States, MCA officials in New York and Los Angeles strongly deny any problem.

The Japan Center Theater opened in 1968 as part of the

Redevelopment Agency's three-block-long Japan Center project. It was developed by the National Braemar firm and they have been selling sections of the center, which is now held by nine different property owners.

In recent years the theater has served as a location for many large Gay and Lesbian civic events. For the last six years it has been the site of the Cable Car Awards & Show. The Emperor and Empress Coronation has also been conducted at the location. The Closet Ball has also found the location ideal for its presentations. In the last five years it has also been used for other Gay events ranging from disco parties to concerts. ■

## Shanti Seeks Seventh House

The Shanti Project AIDS Residence Program is seeking a seventh apartment to rent. The program provides permanent low cost housing for displaced people with AIDS. Currently the Shanti Project, a contract agency of the City of San Francisco, maintains six houses or flats, with 3 to 6 bedrooms each. In these homes, people with AIDS have individual bedrooms and share the living room and kitchen areas.

"Our purpose is to provide stable home environments to people whose lives have been disrupted by a diagnosis of AIDS," explained Helen Scheitinger, Director of the program. "The residences are independent living situations in which a person can continue to live his or her life with dignity. We have kept the residences small so that people have control over their living situations, and the addresses are kept confidential so that the residents have privacy."

The requirements for a Shanti residence house are very specific. The Residence Program needs to lease houses or flats

which have 3 to 6 bedrooms, laundry hookups, good heat, access to public transportation, minimal stairs, and good electricity. Property owners with potential units are urged to contact Michael or Stan at 558-9644. ■

## Mental Health Advisory Boards

The Community Advisory Boards for Mental Health Services are now recruiting new members to fill vacancies. The boards, in existence for over a decade, were created to insure community input in decisions regarding mental health services and are divided into seven groups by geographic and special service focus. Gay and Lesbian community members, current and former mental health consumers, and minorities are encouraged to apply. Annual elections will be held in May.

For more information and a membership application, call Martin Jue at 661-4400. ■



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# Pride's Fiscal Chaos Leads to Unpaid Salaries at Agencies

## City Withholds Money, Says Fiscal Plan Missing; Problems May Shut Doors of Gay Drug Programs

by Charles Linebarger

The Pride Foundation—which recently saw its headquarters on Hayes Street foreclosed and a hoped-for city bailout turned down—is becoming mired in the financial after-effects of these events. Salaries are no longer being paid at the Hayes Valley Community Development Corp. The city has now threatened to cut off payroll funds to Acceptance House and 18th Street Services, the Gay drug treatment programs.

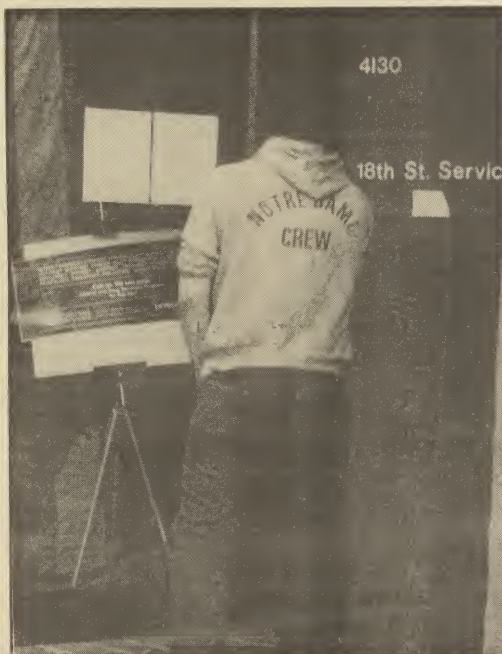
"We gave the Pride Foundation until April 5th to deliver certain documents to our offices and they failed to do so," said Mary Helen Doherty, director of the city's Alcohol Abuse Program. "In response to this failure we have sent them a letter today advising them that we will be holding their April funding until we receive these documents."

The document that Doherty is awaiting is a revision of the Pride budget showing the changes recently made in the foundation's staffing. According to Doherty, employees at Acceptance House and 18th Street Services are due to be paid at the end of the month. "The effect of our holding April funding will be that the staff will go unpaid."

Doherty said that the city does not take this kind of action lightly. It happens when something pertaining to contract compliance, by a city-funded agency, has not been filed with the city as required.

And while employees at Pride's two alcohol abuse programs for Gay men work under threat of not being paid, the city moves closer to shutting down funding entirely for Pride to run Acceptance House and 18th Street Services. On April 18 at noon the city's new contracts with Baker Places and Operation Concern will leave Doherty's office. These contracts will soon be before the Board of Supervisors Health Committee, and if all goes according to plan, Baker Places and Operation Concern will be delivering city-funded services to Gay men as of July 1st.

Salaries are already going unpaid at another Pride subsidiary, the Hayes Valley CDC. According to a highly placed source with the CDC, checks which should have gone out to employees last week were not delivered by the Pride administration. Pride pays the salaries of CDC employees but



Doors May Close at 18th Street Services as fallout from pride fiscal chaos.  
(Photo: Rink)

the money comes from the city in the form of monthly grants. According to the same source these funds have been held back by the city for the last two months.

Our source at the CDC said that virtual chaos has reigned since Dawson ceased functioning as director of Pride at the end of March. "Things have happened so fast. There are no instructions being put out." The source said, "We are responsible for the residents we are in charge of and that's why I'm still here. But we need money. We need donations."

The Roman Catholic religious order which foreclosed

on the Pride Center several weeks ago is now in the process of looking for a buyer for the former Pride building. When the building is sold Pride as well as the other tenants of the building—including the Shanti Project—will have to find new quarters. As if these weren't problems enough, Pride has just been audited by the Mayor's Office of Community Development.

The audit of Pride has been sent to the City Attorney's Office and has not been released to the public yet. This in itself is not unusual, particularly when the city is contemplating bringing suit—which apparently it may be now.

## Health Fair '85

How does your Health Fair? Check it out at Health Fair '85 at Health Center #1/Sanchez School on April 27 and 28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free screening will be offered for vision, dental, hearing, anemia, blood pressure, height/weight, foot, stool, enteric diseases, Pap smears, STDs.

Two optional blood tests will be offered for a very reduced fee: SMAC Blood Panel for 25 different blood components costs \$10, and the Coronary Risk Profile blood cholesterol and lipid test can be taken for an additional \$5. The tests require an 8 and 12 hour fast respectively.

Health Center #1 is wheelchair accessible, therefore, persons in wheelchairs should register at HC 1. For more information call Dr. Dunningan at 558-2036. For hearing impaired use TTY 929-7384. ■

## UC-SF Honors Bobbi Campbell

The University of California, San Francisco Chancellor's Award for Public Service, given annually to campus members for outstanding service to the community beyond that required by their university position, was awarded posthumously, Thursday, April 4, to Bobbi Campbell.

Campbell, a student in the School of Nursing until his death on August 15, 1984, was honored for his "extraordinary commitment to enhancing community awareness and understanding of AIDS and the need for AIDS-related research and health care. Despite his illness, he spoke out and gave his time, energy and leadership to give others hope." Campbell, who lived in San Francisco, was a founder of the People With AIDS Alliance. ■

## Lesbian Baby Boom

Lesbians Considering Parenthood, a six week facilitated group sponsored by Lyon-Martin Clinic has several openings in the San Francisco as well as the East Bay groups. The groups are facilitated by Cheryl Jones, mother of a four-year-old daughter. The groups will explore diverse issues of concern to Lesbians considering children in their lives, including dealing with parents, co-parenting, financial aspects of parenting and choosing a donor. The format involves discussions, presentations and exercises. The fee for the six-week group is \$60-80 based on a sliding scale. The San Francisco group runs Wednesday evenings through May 15, from 7-9 p.m. at the clinic conference room. The East Bay group is held on Sunday afternoons from 4-6 p.m. April 14-May 19. Call Lyon-Martin Clinic at 641-0220 to register. ■



# GOP Ponders Ballot to 'Close the Baths'

## Little Support, Big Problem: The Baths Are Mostly Closed

by Ray O'Loughlin

A faction of the local Republican Party wants to re-heat last year's hot potato: closing the baths. Their first difficulty is that all but one of the baths are already closed.

The group, which includes the chair of the local GOP organization's issues committee, wants to close all sex-related businesses. So far, they haven't won any support. The issues panel of the County Republican Committee voted down a proposed "close the baths" ballot initiative at its meeting last month.

According to a mysterious press release sent to the local media, the initiative would make it "a crime to operate any business establishment where unsafe sex practices take place." It would also "impose penalties on persons with AIDS who donate blood."

The proposed penalty? "Bathhouse owners and people with AIDS who donate blood will be civilly liable for the cost of all AIDS cases that result from their violations of the ordinance."

According to the press release, the ballot initiative had been proposed by C. Derek Anderson to the Issues Committee of the Republican Central Committee which discussed it at its Mar. 26 meeting. An attached copy of the agenda for that meeting showed an item listed as "AIDS Epidemic" to be considered along with two other initiative proposals. Anderson is a Republican fundraiser and a member of the Issues Committee. He denies having anything to do with spearheading the ballot initiative.

The statement concluded by saying that the committee "voted to give consideration to the final draft of the Anderson Initiative at their April meeting." The last sentence

then supplied the name and phone number of Issues Committee chair Martin Eng.

### 'BAFFLED'

Republican Party officials said they were baffled and angry over the distribution of the unauthorized press release. Harriet Ross, head of the party's local Central Committee, said, "It was not an official release from the party. Nothing is supposed to go out except through me. I have no idea who did this."

Neither did Eng have any idea of who leaked the information. He denied that he or Anderson had anything to do with the mysterious press release. "I don't know what purpose it would serve to distribute such a statement," he said. But he confirmed an interest in the bathhouse issue. "Some of us are

## Women's Lit Conference

On April 12, 13 and 14, the San Francisco State University Poetry Center will present a conference, "Women Working in Literature," sponsored by the California Council for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The conference will address the impact of the women's movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s on contemporary writing and scholarship by women. All sessions will be held on the San Francisco State University campus.

Writers from across the state and country and Canada will be participating in the event, among them are poets Olga Broumas, Lorna Dee Cervantes, Judy Grahn and Monique Wittig and scholars Elizabeth Abel, Joanne Feit-Diehl, Susan Stanford Friedman, Sandra Gilbert and Marjorie Perloff.

Admission to "Women Working in Literature" is \$3 per session for each of four day and evening sessions (\$12 for the entire event). Scholarships are available as well as free childcare. To register for the event, call the Poetry Center at 469-2227.

## Mr. Financial District Contest

The first annual Mr. Financial District Contest has been scheduled for Saturday, April 20, at Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery Street commencing at 8 p.m. It is co-hosted by Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, Sutter's Mill Bar and Restaurant, and the San Francisco AIDS Fund which will be the charitable recipient of the net proceeds from the event. Admission is \$10 which includes a free drink and a chance to win one of several unique door prizes.



Here We Go Again. Last year it was "Gay Leaders"—now it's conservative Republicans—dumping on the baths. Maybe the Gays set a trend. (Photo: Rink)

very concerned about AIDS and are trying to do something about the problem," he said.

Eng said he was concerned about blood transfusions infecting people, and said that some people were even refusing "to do business in San Francisco" for fear of catching the dreaded illness.

Chris Bowman and Bob Bacci, both of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, were at the Mar. 26 Issues Committee meeting. Bowman said that the proposed initiative was on the agenda, discussed and voted down by the committee. "It was killed in committee," said Bowman. "It was felt that it responded to hysteria and did not address such issues as patient care." Bowman said it would take a two-thirds vote of the committee to revive the issue. For now, he thought the matter was dead.

But he added, "We plan to mobilize every effort to stop this thing before it gets going."

### 'LOOKING INTO IT'

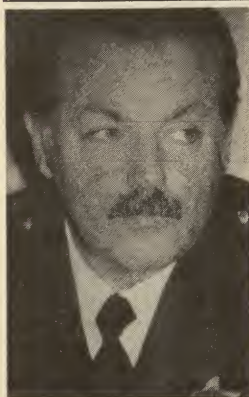
If Martin Eng and some others have their way, Bowman's mobilization may yet be needed. Though he described himself as "not officially behind it," Eng said, "Some people are still researching the matter (a ballot initiative)." He said he personally was "still looking into it" as well. Eng said he doubted that the Republican Party would sponsor such an initiative. Nonetheless, he said it might again be placed on the Issues Committee agenda.

When asked, Eng said he was not aware that a similar initiative had been proposed and dropped last year. He also was not clear on whether bathhouses had in fact re-opened. Only one (the San Francisco Health Club)

has, and it, like the bookstores, theaters and sex clubs affected by Superior Court Judge Roy Wonder's Nov. 1984 order, operate under strict prohibitions against unsafe sex.

But Eng maintained that a ballot initiative closing the baths would be "one small step" in an "education campaign." He claimed that only a "small minority of militant Gays" objected to closure and that there was "fear of antagonizing the militants." He said that it may have been those "militant Gays" who distributed the mysterious press release.

Eng said that the initiative he would favor would have to "be more intelligent." He would close all bathhouses and health clubs, not just Gay establishments, saying, "They do spread diseases." He said he was afraid to use communal hot tubs for fear of disease.



Con Murphy (Photo: Rink)

## Con Murphy Addresses Alliance

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance will have Con Murphy, Chief of Police for San Francisco, as featured speaker at The Alliance's next civic breakfast.

Chief Murphy will address the issues surrounding the recent criticisms of the Police Department and the actions the department is implementing as a result of these criticisms.

The Breakfast will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 5 Embarcadero Center on Friday, April 26 at 8 a.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and reservations are available by calling The Alliance at (415) 392-2800 or (415) 552-5600.

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# Rising Spirit Among Gays Is Festive Topper on Easter

**Deco-Dense Deco-Dance is Talk of the Troc;  
Some Real Dog Wins Lily Street Bonnet Bash**

by Allen White

A dog won the largest Easter bonnet contest in the city, the Trocadero turned back the clock to the Thirties, and thousands participated in Passover and Easter services as this past weekend turned into one of the major celebrations of the Gay community this year.

Early this week bars throughout the city had begun to set the mood. The Midnight Sun was a dream come true for the Easter bunny. The interior had been turned into an Easter fantasy with giant Easter baskets, colored eggs suspended over the crowd, and an Easter rabbit all blending together in a spectacle of color.

Saturday the accent was on white. Activity at many stores throughout the day served to forecast the crowd at the annual "White Party" at the Trocadero Transfer. David Caruso and his staff did a sensational job of transforming the dance palace into a gallery dedicated to the art deco period of the Thirties and Forties.

The party was themed toward the Trocadero Ballroom, a famous Hollywood Sunset Strip night club. "The White Party" regulars from past years knew that the dress was white. In the Trocadero's promotion they pushed their audience towards the sophisticated look of the Hollywood glamour era.

The people responded by the hundreds. The party was a visual success as color washes covered the dance floor turning dress—which ranged from sailor outfits to full length tails—all white, to the many colors of the rainbow. Huge art deco chandeliers were constructed and given multi-color interior lighting and a giant art deco arch was positioned over the stage for the 3 a.m. appearance of Jayne Edwards.

Sunday afternoon the city was a bevy of activity with private brunches, and restaurants reporting lines at all the major Gay establishments.

The Lily Street Easter Party was a highlight of the weekend. Lily Street is a small alley located in the Hayes Valley near the Mint. Hundreds of people showed for this fourth annual event. It began in 1982 as the brainchild of Tommy Tripp and Carl Heimann. They enlisted support from all the neighbors and simply threw a party.

There were 19 contestants in the Easter bonnet contest. Showing a possible sign of changing Gay taste, the winner of the Easter bonnet contest was Mr. McDuff, a 14-year-old Scotch Terrier. His owner Mark Carey was delighted as he held his trophy, an egg, and bragged that the dog was 98 years old in dog years (a sign of hope for all senior citizens).

Michael Harlaub and Craig Richmond donned their best Easter dress and Michael brought his charming mother. For the day they chose to go by the names of Jackie Rabbit, and Bunny Hopper and, of course, there was Mumsy.

Mumsy is a delightful woman who just moved to the San Francisco area from Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She said they had no Easter bonnet contest in Carlisle and the biggest event of the year back home was an antique car show.

18th Street became a Gay ver-

sion of New York's 5th Avenue as three bars got together to sponsor another Easter bonnet contest. Management at The Men's Room worked with their counterparts at The Village and at Festus for three Easter headgear contests.

A \$25.00 prize and two \$15.00 prizes were given at each bar for the most outstanding Easter expression. Rules were not specific but it livened up the Castro for several hours on Sunday afternoon. Braving this onslaught of Gay extravagance was the Sierra Club which picked Easter Sunday, of all days, to set up a booth at Hibernia Beach to solicit members for a Lesbian/Gay

chapter.

Easter is a religious Christian holiday and Passover is one of the holiest of Jewish times. Saturday night many journeyed to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, one of San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay synagogues, for the traditional seder.

Sunday morning churches Gay and straight were filled with those who chose this time to express their religious beliefs or simply enjoy the spectacle of religious pageantry. Gays participated in churches from Grace Cathedral on Nob Hill to the Metropolitan Community Church in the Polk area and the Castro.



Bow-Wow Bonnet won top topper at Street Fair; McDuff the Terrier looks smug as companion Mark beams. (Photo: Rink)



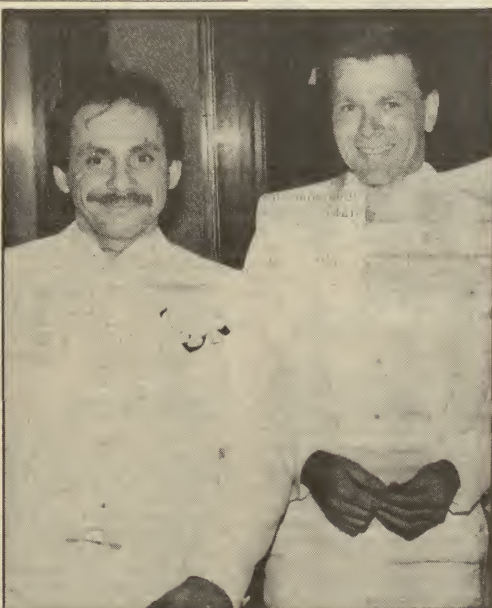
Bunny Buns. A kiss is just a kiss, unless it's the Easter Bunny—wearing ruby red lipstick—aiming for the cotton tail. (Photo: Rink)



Miss Lily Street (Photo: Rink)



In Your Easter Bonnet with kinky stuff up on it . . . (Photo: Rink)



Simple White said it all at the Troc, which revived the Deco Decade. (Photo: Rink)



## DEATHS

### Nathaniel Wayne Burgess

My best friend, and the person with whom I shared true, honest and pure love died in the comfort of our home on Friday, March 29.

Nathaniel was finally relieved of his pain and suffering through respiratory failure caused by AIDS.

Nathaniel is survived by his mother, father, brother, and as he referred to me, his "significant other."

The one place Nathaniel always wished to visit was Greece and he will finally make it; for I plan to scatter his ashes there this summer.

I love you, Wes, and you will live on in my heart until we are together again.

Sybil Charlotte Wilson

### Marc Yim

In San Francisco, March 30: beloved son of William and Alice Yim of San Francisco, died exactly one week after sustaining severe traumatic injuries in an automobile accident. He was 32 years old.

He is also survived by a brother, Darrell; two sisters, Katina Lum and Alison Yim; a sister-in-law, Linda Yim; a brother-in-law, Kendrick Lum; two nephews and a niece and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

A native of San Francisco, Marc is a graduate of Lowell High School and City College of San Francisco. He was a talented designer and artist.

Private services were held. Contributions to the ON LOK Senior Health Services, 1441 Powell Street, San Francisco, 94133 preferred. ■

### Adolfo Luna

Adolfo Luna of San Francisco, died March 28 in San Francisco. He is survived by his mother, Maria Ramirez of Mexico; brother, Eugene Ramirez, and sister Martha Elena Taron of Hobbs, New Mexico, and many loving friends in San Francisco. Private memorial services were held. Donations preferred to Shanti Project, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco. For information contact Tom Simpson funeral counselor. ■

### Dwayne E. Campbell

Dwayne E. Campbell passed away peacefully on March 31 at the St. Francis Memorial Hospital of an AIDS related condition.



Dwayne, native of Virginia, made his stake in the California banking community as assistant vice president of Hibernia Bank.

He enjoyed country western music and could always be found with the boys at a G.S.L. supported game and drinks afterwards at his favorite bar, the Village.

Dwayne will live on in his lover, family and his many friends.

In lieu of flowers, please send your donations to the Godfather Fund c/o The Tavern Guild of San Francisco, P.O. Box 11309, S.F. 94101-7309.

Memorial Services will be this Saturday, April 13 at Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. and 18th. 3:00 p.m.

The gathering of family and friends will follow the service on the patio at the Village, 4086 18th Street. ■

### Ramon Vidali

Ramon Vidali died at home on March 17. He was greatly comforted by the love given him by his dear friends during his last months of AIDS related illness.



Born June 16, 1938, he graduated from the California College of Arts and Crafts and received his MA from Mills College.

After painting in Europe for six years he returned to the city and finally set up his easel on the Castro where for over two years he painted the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, drag queens, Gay businesses and many of us in the 'Gay Community.' He loved all those who respected and encouraged his art.

Donations in his memory to Shanti (558-9644) and/or Hospice (283-5622) would be welcome. ■

### John Ivor Owens

John Ivor Owens died March 23 in San Francisco. He is survived by family members from Virginia Beach, Virginia, and many loving friends in San Francisco. Private memorial services were held. Inurnment, Virginia Beach, Virginia. Donations preferred to Shanti Project, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco. For information contact Tom Simpson funeral counselor, 626-3340. ■

### James Thomason-Bergner

James Thomason-Bergner, resident of Santa Fe and former resident of San Francisco, died on his 40th birthday, Wednesday, March 20. James was a musician, theatre director and vocal coach. He was the original musical director of *Beach Blanket Babylon* and of *Mame*, the original all-male cast version performed at California Hall in 1972.

He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, received a Master's degree from Lone Mountain College in San Francisco and was later head of the theatre department. In New York he was a private vocal coach, music coach and music therapist at the Hebrew Home for the Elderly. In Kerville, Texas, he was the musical director of the Point Theatre.

He was a member of the Unitarian Church and Common Bond, the local Santa Fe Gay community organization. He is survived by his mother, Lucile Bergner Oakley of Amarillo, Texas; his brother, Bill Bergner of Amarillo; his sisters Betty Womble of Morse, Texas and Anna (Scout) Bergner of New York; and his companion and dear friend, Donald Stout of Santa Fe, N.M.

A celebration of his life and death will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 12 noon at Club Fugazi, San Francisco. A memorial fund has been set-up by his friends Steve Silver and Pat Campano. Contributions to: J. Thomason-Bergner Memorial Fund, c/o Club Fugazi, 678 Green St., San Francisco. ■

### Dale Edward

Dale Edward, 42, Co-owner of Canary Island restaurant, died April 3 of AIDS. He is survived by his lover of 12 years, Justin Newman, by his father, Edward Hornof of Sacramento; a brother, Spike, of Portland, Oregon; three sisters, Sam of Quincy, California, Diane of Sacramento, and Sharon of Oak Grove, Arkansas.

Dale will be remembered for many things... his unique personality, a charismatic blend of the earthy and the elegant, which endeared him to all who knew him; his love of life; his strong sense of commitment to his friends, and the infectious sound of his laughter, which emanated from deep within him and reverberated through the universe.

A memorial celebration of Dale's life was held April 8 at Canary Island. Donations in his name may be made to the Shanti Project.

Sleep well, beloved friend ■

### David L. Venn

David L. Venn of Forestville, formerly from San Francisco, died Sunday, April 7. David was a former bartender at The Balcony, San Francisco, and The Rainbow Cattle Co., Russian River. He is survived by family, and many loving friends in San Francisco and the River. Private memorial services were held. Donations preferred to your favorite charity. For information contact Tom Simpson funeral counselor, 626-3340. ■

### Parsonage Training

Training for the "Challenge to Be" Program at The Parsonage begins Saturday, April 13. This program consists of five Saturday workshops with emphasis on active listening, personal growth and understanding, elimination of the homophobia of homosexuals and other topics. Upon successful completion of the training, one may be commissioned as a Parson at a Grace Cathedral ceremony and begin work at The Parsonage in the field she or he chooses.

The dates of the program are April 13 and 27; May 11 and 25; and June 1. The classes are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$30. For more information contact Bob Smith at The Parsonage: 552-2909. ■

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## 70 New AIDS Cases Here in March; Total Tops 1,000; Nat'l Total 8,853

Seventy new cases of AIDS in San Francisco were reported to the Department of Public Health during March. It was another record month for new AIDS cases in the city. There had been 61 new cases in February. The March total of 70 new cases compared to 29 new AIDS cases reported one year earlier, in March 1984.

The total number of AIDS cases in the city was 1,061 at month's end. That was more than double the 468 total cases reported one year earlier, at the end of March 1984. There had been 505 AIDS deaths in the city at month's end, compared to 175 deaths recorded as of one year earlier.

Nationally, as of March 18,

the federal Centers for Disease Control had logged 8,853 AIDS cases, of whom 4,300 had died. This was more than double the total number of AIDS cases as of one year earlier, when 3,945 cases had been logged as of March 1984.

From a press release provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.



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# Readers Ask, Comment About 'Sensible Sex'

## It's Into the Mailbag for Wrap-Up of Risk Reduction

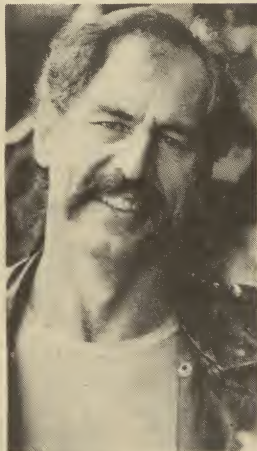
by Richard Locke

**B**ecause of my request for letters from the readers concerning sensible sex techniques, I have been inundated with mail, the most interesting of which I will relay here.

Before sharing those letters with you I want to report on some investigations that I got interested in when I talked to the pharmacist at Walgreen's at 18th and Castro. It seems that ever since the B.A.R. reported that the active ingredient in vaginal foams, non-oxynol 9, kills the AIDS virus, the store is hard put to keep the foams on the shelf. There has been a twenty-five percent increase in the sale of foams.

With this news I began to investigate. I found a paper by Clark Taylor, Ph.D., titled, "AIDS Prevention and Non-ionic Surfactants." The paper is very informative. I found that one Gay product, "Foreplay," is 20 percent nonoxynol 9. "Foreplay" is far and away the cheapest product on the market. That is the good news. But, since it is a gel, it's not as effective as the foam.

I also found that if improperly administered its efficacy is



Richard Locke (Photo: Rink)

only about 75 percent, but when used with a condom and properly administered the efficacy reaches 99 percent.

More bad news is that there have been no studies on the anal use of the "surfactant" as either an AIDS preventive or carcinogenic studies of absorption

through the anal canal.

With all of this in mind, I say: use it. Getting cancer at age 60 seems preferable to AIDS today. And if improperly used it is still 75 percent effective in killing sperm. That's 75 percent better than nothing.

This is all new to me so I haven't yet tried it. Besides, it costs nearly \$10.00 for the foam. I wonder what it tastes like. I have never used Foreplay as a lubricant so I can't report on that.

For those who have used it I know we would all like to hear about it. Mr. Taylor's report had nothing to say about its use by Gays because it's all new, so this would be the first real study from Gays. It could help immensely if the Gay users of vaginal foams would step forward.

Sensible sex is not anything that any one of you is incapable of figuring out on your own. I have stressed "good common sense" for many reasons. Buckminster Fuller, who designed the geodesic dome, calls it *apriori* knowledge, or that ability that we are all born with to deduce from the information available; to use reason.

Scientists are using the "scientific method," experiment and experience, to find a cure. All that is needed is good common sense to prevent the disease.

There will be no scientists in bed with us when we do the things that put us at risk. I reiterate, we ourselves are individually responsible for what we do. Think about what you do before you do it.

I am a raging optimist. I see the solution to AIDS as being within ourselves, individually.

This brings me to my first letter to share with you. It comes from a person who is notorious for his raging pessimism. His name is Randy Shilts.

I have enjoyed your performances in various films for a number of years. Given your interest in AIDS, I thought you might be interested in the enclosed reprints done by *The Chronicle* in an effort to further disseminate information about the epidemic.

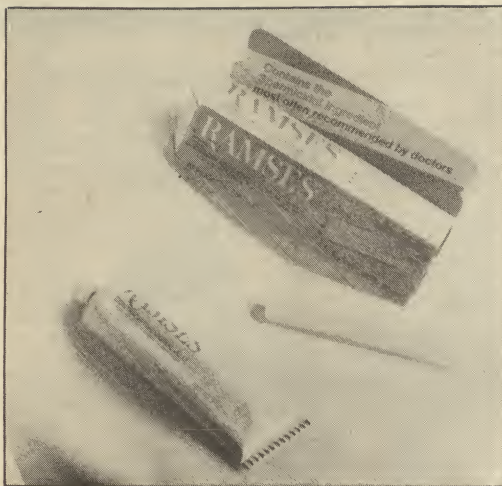
You have a unique credibility among many people who might find themselves at highest risk for having AIDS. Anyone interested in the continued survival of Gay men as biological organisms in major urban areas should applaud your use of that credibility to deal in a forthright way with the spreading epidemic. Thanks.

Randy Shilts  
Reporter

I have read Randy's articles in the *Chronicle* and *The New York Native* and have been insulted and appalled. At the same time I would like to think his motivation is the same as mine and therefore I have respect for his efforts. When asked by me about his pessimism, he said it was needed. I feel it's a negative approach. AIDS needs a positive approach.

The "continued survival of Gay men as biological organisms in major urban areas" is not a question in my mind. The reduced rate of anal gonorrhea in the Gay community over the past four years is proof of a community which has far surpassed behavior modification by any group in all of history.

The *Chronicle* won't print precautionary ads from the AIDS Foundation because they are too sexually explicit. Would the *Chronicle* hesitate to tell people to put out rat traps in a plague of the Black Death? Is this the 14th century or the 20th century?



Spermicidal Foam is meant to prevent babies but is also said to block AIDS virus . . . but tests aren't complete. (Photo: Rink)

**T**he second letter to share with you is really great. It delves into an area that I was beginning to explore more thoroughly just recently. One day while I was walking up Castro Street feeling very ineffective in the face of all the madness and lost in deep thought, a man appeared right in my face very suddenly.

He introduced himself to me as Joe Kramer of the "Body Electric," 6527 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. It was magic, Joe's business is massage, and since my primary vocation is massage we had a lot in common. Sometimes people come into our lives when they are needed most and not until then.

Joe was a godsend. Many times while performing my stage show the "Valley of Orgasm" was with me. I never thought about or even realized there was such a thing even though I have experienced it many times. Joe began to relate to me his experiences in what he calls ecstatic sex. We have formed a very special relationship and taught a class together in "Ecstatic, Sensible Sex."

Then I received this letter. Since Joe has the expertise in this area I asked him to reply to this letter.

I appreciate your latest series of articles on sensible sex. I have felt that the concept of an actual published manual for both straights and Gays of sensible sex techniques would be very marketable and profitable.

My personal major sensible sex technique is simple: monogamy. Simple but shattering. Having to let go of my personal self-imagery of a lone sex-cub playfully prowling and getting down to the real possibility that one man can satisfy and love me has been quite a growing-up experience. Perhaps not a technique for all, but it's been the major one that has changed my life and its quality. AIDS awareness moved me into my heart and out of my cock.

The other "technique" that has made our sexual play revolutionary is Tantric Sex Play: taking the energy about to burst from a cum-loaded dick and taking it "somewhere else." I lack the writer's ability to describe what happens, but I am filled with ecstasy, love, being with my partner. We call it the "valley" orgasm: going for sustaining the flow, the buzz, the rush rather than the "peak" orgasm.

Cumming now often feels just like one amongst other options about what to do with sexual energy—often an option that seems too easy and

kind of "the same old thing" rather than the mystery of my body shaking uncontrollably, thick ropes of cum flowing from my cock without the spasms of ejaculation, the visions I see, the warm expansions I feel in my chest, the laughter and tears without reasons, etc.

Unfortunately, I never met any men who were willing and wanted to "go to those places" with me, but I'm sure they exist. Luckily, I now have someone who is more than willing to explore masculine/feminine sexual energy.

In closing, good luck to you and your work with the men out there who need your help and knowledge.

Ed Kotula

If you are interested in healthy and ecstatic ways to have sex in an epidemic, I recommend checking out an ancient Chinese approach: Taoism. While most male sex today is concerned with discharging erotic energy from the body, the Tao of sex suggests charging the body with sexual energy. Distinguishing between ejaculation and orgasm, a Taoist wants to enhance and prolong orgasm while not discharging the erotic energy from the body in ejaculation.

A good way to introduce yourself to this erotic experience is to masturbate for two hours or more without ejaculating. Within the first 30 minutes, you will begin to feel erotically charged. The longer you play with yourself, the higher you will get. You can control the degree of charge by how close to ejaculation you stay. Remaining just below the point of ejaculation inevitably for a long period is what Taoists call valley orgasm, or riding the wave of bliss. I call it erotic surfing.

If you are not accustomed to marathon masturbation, let me suggest some hints to enhance your pleasure:

- Wake up and stretch out your body before your two-hour session. Go for a run or take an aerobics class. The more alive your body is the more you will feel.
- Keep your body as relaxed as possible during the session. Trying to maintain an erection for two hours by tensing muscles will only produce cramps and exhaustion.
- Pay attention to your body rather than fantasizing. Taoist sex is a body experience rather than a head trip.
- Breathe fully and regularly. Constricting the breath helps some men intensify ejaculation, but the goal here is not to ejaculate. Subventilation numbs our

(Continued on next page)

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## Reader's Sex Advice

(Continued from previous page)  
body sensations.

- Use lubricant on your penis. Dry rubbing for long periods of time can damage and numb nerve endings. Don't limit your self-erotic massage to your penis. Explore your body geography.

- Move or shake your body as you get higher. Taoism approaches sex like a martial art. You are circulating erotic energy through your body. When that energy gets blocked or stuck, especially in the hips, you often lose control and ejaculate.

- If you really wish to have a completely Taoist sexual experience, don't ejaculate at the end of the session. Pay close attention to your body for 24 hours after this experience.

This solo experiment is only an introduction to Taoism. Taoist techniques can be practiced alone, with another or in groups.

If you wish to learn more about Taoism after this experiment, contact Body Electric School of Massage and Rebirthing in Oakland or the Taoist Esoteric Yoga Center in San Francisco or your local acupuncturist.

For those who wish to read more about enhancing and prolonging orgasm, I recommend the following books: *Taoist Secrets of Love—Cultivating Male Sexual Energy* by Mantak Chia and Michael Winn, *The Tao of Love and Sex* by Jolan Change, and *ESO: How You and Your Lover Can Give Each Other Hours of Extended Sexual Orgasms* by Alan and Donna Brauer.

I have been following your interesting concerning "safe sex" in the B.A.R. I am discovering that I am perhaps not as experienced or knowledgeable as I might have thought I was. I am hoping you can—in your column—answer more specifically in "how to" language my questions about what you have only superficially discussed.

I have, with two different lovers, been fucked four of five times a week for the last 12 to 14 years. Anything else or anything less frequent is mutually unsatisfying.

I was, however, very interested and curious about your discussion of "ball fucking." I have never seen this act performed and have never tried to do it. Would you please provide step-by-step instructions. Also, what is a "Ball stretcher" and how does one use it. I've even asked some of my sophisticated friends and no one can help.

In your last column you talked about douching. Despite counting the most enjoyable hours of my life as those with a cock in my ass—and that's a lot of hours—I have never douched or felt a need to. Now I'm having second thoughts. Again, you mention the need for this but don't explain the equipment required and the procedures for doing so. None of my friends admit to douching, either, so there is no help from them.

Andy

Thank you for your comments and your question concerning the "nitty gritty" of douching. Before I answer your question I have to reiterate that there is no such thing as "safe sex." There is a risk of disease transmission with all sex. "Sen-

sible sex" only reduces the risk. It doesn't eliminate risk.

I never used to douche before I got involved in heavy ass play. Every once in a while myself or the person I was with would be dirty. In the past we only considered it to be an embarrassment. Today it is not only embarrassing, it is dangerous.

Many diseases are carried in fecal matter. The best solution is a douche. Douching can be an

enjoyable part of foreplay. When douching each other as foreplay, or as a major part of the sex act, care must be taken that fecal matter does not become internalized. Hands should be kept away from the mouth and separate douching equipment should be used. All douching should be ended with a microbiocide scrub. With some people it is difficult to get them off the hose—be patient.

The best thing for a douche is to relax and let the water flow as far up as possible. That is the key, whether you use a bag or a hose. Relax your stomach and let as much water as you can flow and then expell it.

There are many kinds of

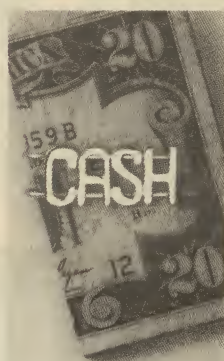
equipment. Walgreen's sells bags just opposite their sex hygiene display. The Ambush has a selection of hoses from the most common aluminum head to rubber hoses, and bags. The Ambush, on Harrison, has a large selection of sex toys on display. Mr. S Leathers on 7th Street also has a good display. For mail order I suggest that you use Mercury Mail Order, 45 Twin Peaks Blvd., San Francisco, CA. 94114.

These three Gay businesses also carry the ball fucking strap that you inquired about. There is a buck to be made in a line of "Sensible Sex" items and you will be seeing more of these items available for your pleasure.

sure. The increase in vaginal foam sales is a good message to Gay businesses.

I don't know all the circumstances, but as an anally passive person, you are at very high risk. I think you should sit down and talk with your lovers seriously about their other contacts. Unless they play sensibly outside your relationship you are at very high risk. Even if they begin to play sensibly now, it might be too late. I suggest you play sensibly, use condoms or vaginal foams, for at least 18 months until you are all three certain that you have not contaminated each other from a contact from the past 4 or 5 years. It is a precaution that is necessary.

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# Cyclists Pedal for Charity

(Continued from page 1)

Two riders had already called it quits here at mile 83. The rear sweep driver had instructions to pull any stragglers off the road at dusk. With low dark clouds overhead, light was fading fast.

"How do you feel, Gene?" the driver asked.

"Fine. Fine," Gene said, nodding his head.

"Think you can make it? Want to keep going?"

Gene smiled, his head still nodding. Beads of sweat rolled down the sides of his face. The man looked delirious.

"Go for it then."

The light faded. Gene kept pedaling. He slowed to 12 miles an hour, even on the flat road skirting the Russian River. Near the end, the driver following Gene blocked the lane. He trained his headlights on Gene, so overtaking motorists wouldn't end the day's effort with a disaster.

At 7:01 p.m.—11 hours, 28 minutes and 100 miles from the start—Gene Howard coasted into the parking lot of Molly Brown's outside Guerneville. Horns honked, lights flashed, more than a hundred people cheered, jumping up and down. Gene dismounted, more wobbly than ever, and nodded and smiled.

"It's called your Personal Best," cyclist B.J. Irwin had told me earlier in the day.

★ ★ ★

Their Personal Best: That's what 62 cyclists grinded out on Saturday, April 6. That's what dozens of volunteers gave, what dozens of sponsors contributed, what hundreds of donors pledged. It was the first-ever Lesbian and Gay bike-a-thon from San Francisco to the Russian River. Betting is, it won't be the last.

And it was an unqualified success. By day's end, pledges topping \$33,000 had been earned by the cyclists for benefit of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

I didn't believe it could be done, and I wasn't alone. Now that I've seen it with my own eyes I have to believe it. As a Sunday cyclist who day-trips from the city to Sausalito or Larkspur, I couldn't conceive of pumping over the Marin Headlands, along the cliffs on the coast, and all the way to Guerneville in just one day.

The leader did it in 5 hours, 55 minutes. It is said he did not stop pedaling from the time he left Castro Street. In keeping with the spirit of the event—a bike-a-thon, not a race—nobody made a big deal out of who placed first, second and so on. In fact, I never learned who the leader was; only that he averaged just under 17 miles an hour on this rigorous route.

More typical of those who were toward the head of the pack was Dr. Bob Bolan, a member of the AIDS Foundation Board. Bob Bolan has the stature of a jockey and the speed of a racehorse. Bolan had an "on board computer." These gadgets are comprised of a wheel-mounted magnet paired with a frame-mounted sensor. A micro-computer in the middle of the handlebars counts the wheel rotations against a clock. The resulting data is everything you ever wanted to know about a bike ride.

Bolan left the city with the pack at 7:33 a.m. and arrived at the Russian River at 2:04. Elapsed time: 6 hours, 28 min-



Bayside Bombers: Cyclists speed through Sausalito as a fog-wrapped city skyline is their backdrop. (Photo: Rink)



Dwarfed by the Golden Gate, 62 cyclists pedal out of the city en route to Guerneville. (Photo: Rink)



Ready to Go. Two cyclists anticipate the opening horn on Castro Street at start of Bike-a-Thon. (Photo: Rink)



Different Spokes President Bob Humason commends Gene Howard (Photo: Rink)

utes. Average speed: 16.9 miles per hour. Top speed: 40.7 miles per hour. That's right: 40.7 miles an hour. That must have been coming down out of the Marin headlands. Can you imagine racing downhill toward the cliffs at the edge of the Pacific at 40.7 miles an hour? He also got a flat tire—10 minutes after he parked at Molly Brown's.

Of the 62 riders who started at the Castro (see adjacent list), 57 completed the course. Most, but not all, of the cyclists were members of Different Spokes bicycle club. About one-third of the riders were women.

★ ★ ★

"They thought I was crazy. I know they didn't take it seriously," said Ricky Johnson. I was talking to Ricky as we drove back to the city on Sunday night. Johnson wasn't a cyclist and he had never organized anything big before. So, several months ago, the AIDS Foundation didn't know what to think when Ricky Johnson said he would organize a bike-a-thon to raise money for the fight against AIDS.

Ken Jones, the foundation's volunteer coordinator, did what

all good coordinators would do: He told Ricky Johnson to organize the whole thing and get back to him. To everyone's surprise, that's just what Ricky did.

"How long did it actually take to put together?" I asked.

"Oh, about six weeks," Johnson said. Six weeks! And the bike-a-thon come off more smoothly than many an event I have seen organized by people who have been around for years. At the bottom line was the \$33,000 committed in pledges. If those pledges are made good, Ricky Johnson's first foray into fundraising will be among the year's top efforts.

The event was meant to be. That's the only explanation. At every turn, things went right. Businesses, community groups and individuals jumped into the middle of things—often at the last minute—and no needs went unmet. Every time a need was identified, there was somebody there offering the matching resource.

For example: Scenic Hwy Tours, the bus company well known to local Lesbian and Gay groups, pitched in 12 buses. That ain't cheap. Twelve drivers all donated their day's work for free. From the mineral water to

the t-shirts, community groups and businesses got behind the cyclists (see adjacent list).

Biggest contributors were, of course, the Different Spokes bike club and individual cyclists. They recruited the pledges and pumped the miles to put behind the pledges. For example, here are the pledge totals of the top four bikers:

- Craig Schaffer, \$2,230.
- B.J. Irwin, \$1,810.
- Tom Walther, \$1,480.
- Ron Henderson, \$1,365.

There were a few glitches. The cyclists weren't expected to move as fast as they did; they were due at the River between 5 and 6, but most arrived between 3 and 4. The result: the "leading" van with food and drink couldn't keep up with the leaders after half-way. That made for some hungry, thirsty bikers at trail's end. But that was a problem which Charley Borup and Chris Sherman at Molly Brown's made short order of.

And there was one ugly incident en route. A couple of cowboys in a pick-up truck harassed riders near the Sonoma-Marin line, using a stetson hat to swat one rider, and yelling

and spitting at several more. A license number was recorded and police were investigating at day's end.

But some of the cycle-by-the-seat-of-your-pants style added zest to this first bike-a-thon. Saturday's pot luck dinner was at the Elfen Retreat atop a hill near Guerneville. The cyclists and volunteers didn't know they were being hosted by the Radical Faeries.

Laurie McBride, president of the Golden Gate Business Association and one of the van drivers, was surprised when she showed up at the bottom of a dark hillside to be greeted by a woman "in full face paint wearing deer horns or something on her head. And this long flowing robe."

The pavilion at the top of the hill was lit by flickering firelight, adding an eerie glow to the Faeries, clad in their face-paint, antlers and robes. For the hungry bikers, the exotic curried dishes laid out in buffet were just fine, and a good time was had by all.

The only people who may have been disappointed in the whole affair were the good Gay citizens of the Russian River.

(Continued on next page)



# Bike-a-Thon a Success

(Continued from previous page)

Expecting the party of the springtime—with more than a hundred city cyclists and volunteers in town—they packed the bars and discos. But most of the bike-a-thon crew was fast asleep by 9:30. That happens when you arise at 5 a.m. and pedal a hundred miles.

The River community was solidly behind the bike-a-thon. Resorts offered free lodging, with the Woods serving as weekend headquarters. On Sunday, the AIDS Foundation put on a three-hour program to honor its volunteers for the past year and the Woods provided the site. The day before, members of the River AIDS Support Group travelled out to Bridgehaven near Jenner to cheer on the arriving cyclists.

At every turn, people pitched in when they were needed. The B.A.R. dispatched a van with a reporter and a photographer. By



Bob Bolan (Photo: Rink)

noon time, the news van was one of the "sweep" vans—running up and down the highway to rescue cyclists. The only rescue happened after the van went into a ditch.

★ ★ ★

The bike-a-thon proved several things. First, for those still in doubt, the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian community proved itself capable of rising to any challenge to support its own. Who else could put on such an event, on such short notice, with almost no cash?

Second, the bike-a-thon proved that we can get positive energy out of the tragedy of the AIDS crisis. Anyone who doubts that should take part in next year's bike-a-thon. There's only one thing necessary to get some of that positive energy out: putting a little positive energy in.

That energy may not be able to move mountains but last weekend, it was enough to get 62 Lesbians and Gay men over the mountains. ■

B. Jones

Following is the list of 62 cyclists who took part in Pedaling for Pride '85, as recorded by Different Spokes Bicycle Club:

Nadav Aharonov  
John Ashby  
Victoria Allenback  
Richard Bassett  
Joanne Bealy  
Bob Bolan  
Dan Brewer  
Lar Bryer  
Barbara Bull  
Bill Burke  
Betsey Carpenter  
Richard Cross  
Mike Duran  
David Feiger  
Ken Fountain  
Abel Galvan  
Greg George  
Chip Gibbons  
Eileen Glutzer  
Les Golden  
Margo Goodman  
Rob Hanley  
Buzz Haughton  
Ron Henderson  
Godfrey Hicks  
Gene Howard  
Bob Humason

Mark Indihar  
B.J. Irwin  
Peter Jenny  
Michael John  
Eric Johnson  
Mark Jolles  
Jennifer Jones  
Karry Kelley  
Jim King  
Amy Kleck  
Sharon Landee  
Mozelle Langford  
Bruce Langford  
Bruce Matasci  
Norman McAllister  
Gary McCormack  
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Kathy Moore  
Jamie Moran  
Bob Munk  
Richard Palmer  
Ron Perez  
Paul Quintilian  
Mark Reverdy  
Joel Roberts  
Craig Schaffert  
Jerry Szymczak  
Nancy Stevens  
Pat Stoner  
Walter Teague  
Roger Tetrault  
Julie Twichell  
Tom Walther  
Dennis Westler  
Anne Winter  
Brent Youngman

# CAN AIDS BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH KISSING?

Because of recent discoveries about saliva and disease, there are questions about AIDS and its possible transmission by saliva.

We do not have answers to all the questions. We *do* have the best available information, medical opinions, and observations from leading AIDS researchers.

**Contact with infected saliva passes many diseases.**

Here's what we know:

Many viral diseases are passed from one individual to another as a result of contact with "infected" saliva. The common cold, flu, cold sores, cytomegalovirus (CMV) and mononucleosis can all be transmitted by contact with the saliva of an infected individual.

On the other hand, some diseases do not have the ability to easily and casually infect individuals. Even though Hepatitis B virus is present in saliva, there is little evidence that people have contracted Hepatitis B from kissing.

**There are different ways of looking at the problem.**

Basically, there are two kinds of research being conducted in the study of the transmission of AIDS through saliva.

In one area of research, epidemiologists study the habits, lifestyles, and sexual practices of persons with AIDS to try and determine how they contracted the disease.

In a separate but related area, virologists have searched for the specific AIDS virus and antibody. While epidemiologists try to determine *how* the disease is spread, virologists try to locate the possible places where the virus can exist and the physical routes (called vectors) the virus uses to spread from one

## AIDS SAFE SEX GUIDELINES

**Safe**  
Massage, Hugging  
Mutual Masturbation  
Social Kissing (Dry)  
Body-To-Body Rubbing (Frottage)  
**Possibly Safe**  
French Kissing (Wet)  
Anal Intercourse With Condom  
Sucking—Stop Before Climax  
Watersports—External Only  
Cunnilingus  
**Unsafe**  
Anal Intercourse Without Condom  
Semen or Urine In Mouth  
Sharing Sex Toys  
Blood Contact  
Rimming  
Fisting  
Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom  
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person to another.

According to Dr. Edward Brandt, former Assistant Secretary for Health, "Epidemiologic patterns of transmission consistent over the past three years lead us to believe that AIDS is transmitted only through blood, blood products, and semen. After more than three years and more than 6,000 cases in the U.S., we have not seen a case where saliva seems to be the plausible route of transmission."

Epidemiologists who have been studying this disease since the beginning of the epidemic generally agree that saliva is not likely to be an effective means of transmitting AIDS.

Although researchers agree that AIDS is probably not spread by kissing, they are not certain. In one study, researchers found the suspected AIDS virus (HTLV-3) and its antibody in the saliva of some people who had been exposed to AIDS. There is no hard evidence that the virus is or is not transmitted through saliva.

Dr. Jerome Groopman, AIDS researcher, says, "Saliva is very unlikely to be an important

means of transmission for this disease... but it is a potential vector (means of transmission)."

Because of the possible risk, "wet" kissing is defined as "Possibly Safe."

**Make an informed decision.**

If you are making decisions about safer sex and intimate kissing, remember: Epidemiologists say there is no evidence that saliva is an effective means of transmitting AIDS. However, the AIDS virus has been found in saliva; consequently, saliva could be a method of transmission. Also remember that, as with all "Possibly Safe" sex practices, risk increases with multiple partners.

Use your judgment. But do not use the uncertainty of the saliva issue as an excuse to engage in known Unsafe Sex practices.

Researchers don't have all the answers, but medical experts agree that safer sexual practices can help stop the spread of AIDS. There's some question about what's completely safe. There's no question about what's completely unsafe.



For more information about AIDS prevention, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation: (415) 863-AIDS Toll-Free in No. CA (800) FOR-AIDS TTY (415) 864-6606



# GREATER BAY NEWS

## Fear and Loathing In Vallejo

### A Trip to Normalville Mall Where Fag-Killers Pass the Time

by John Sugar

When I told Brian Jones about going to Vallejo and doing this story he said "I love the idea, go for it, but for your own safety don't go alone."

Vallejo is home of Con-Funk-Shun, a five-piece Black funk band who took the country by storm with hits like "F-FUN" and "Con-Funk-Shun-ize Ya." It's also the home of five white men who killed a Gay man in San Francisco last year for the fun of it.

These kids were hanging around the Show-Biz pizza parlor in Vallejo and thought, wouldn't it be fun to bash a few fruits in San Francisco. Not that SF needs to import fag-bashers—we've got plenty right here. As a matter of fact, most of these good Christian fag killers live right here in San Francisco.

So why did these kids come here to beat up four men and slam John O'Connell to the sidewalk on Polk Street, cracking his skull? Bend over and grab your ankles, baby, we're driving to Vallejo to find out.

Now I need to "Goetz" some protection. I lined up Suzanne from C.U.A.V., Greg Sykes from U.C. Berkeley, William Bent and his lover Michael, and Jim Shattuck from *Networks* magazine in three cars with three tape recorders and my best Shure microphones. We're off to Vallejo.

My last look at civilization comes from the rear window of Bill's car. Our first stop is Our Bar, the Gay bar, and fortress for our people in occupied Vallejo. Patrons feel like if they can make it to the bar they're safe.

Vallejo is the kind of place that would have to come up 10 points to be dull. It's the kind of place where the guys all use their

noon, some had already been doing some serious drinkin'.

In a small town where there is only one Gay bar the Gay men and Lesbians drink together. The key here is assimilation. My first interview at Our Bar was with a woman regular who seemed to be drunk. It is not yet noon.

Sugar: "What is it like to be Gay in Vallejo?"

Patron: "Oh, the same as it is anywhere else! Fun! Fun! Fun!"

Our Bar: A cultural oasis on the bleak expanse of Sonoma Boulevard. I thought. A distressing omen of the shape of things to come, existing as a surreal hideout on the edge of an even bleaker heterosexual Norman Rockwell scene.

Sugar: "What do you think about the murder of John O'Connell?"

Patron: (giggles) "Well I'm

**Vallejo would have to come up 10 points to be dull . . . It's full of ugly girls—they go to the beauty parlor for an estimate.**

shirts for oil pans and a woman's place is in the oven. They don't read anything hardbound unless you count the phone book. They have the I.Q. of a plant.

On Saturday the girls dress up in their Penney's line of Pat Benatar fashions and fix their hair up like Farrah Fawcett (Girls, Vallejo is hair-do heaven—very campy). Vallejo is full of ugly girls—they go to the beauty parlor for an estimate! Then it's off to the K-Mart/Larwin Plaza shopping mall/consumer mecca for an afternoon of sales. PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!

Our Bar in Vallejo is friendly enough though many of the patrons seemed genuinely frightened. There were about a half dozen patrons in the bar before

glad those kids didn't know we were here!"

Ignorance is bliss.

Scott, a young patron in the bar, recognizes me from San Francisco. While interviewing him he tells me he was at a party with one of the murderers a week before the Polk Street hassles.

Scott: "It was a party of Vallejo's Gay people and he was there. He just glared at everybody. There were too many of us there to attack!"

Sugar: "Where can I find Vallejo's youth to interview?"

Scott: They're probably in San Francisco beating up Gays."

It was a hot day in Vallejo. The crew and I drive to Normalville-Anytown U.S.A. to interview a cross-section of Vallejo's socioeconomic structure. The shopping mall is a polyester nightmare where pod people are drawn from their four-door metal units by the sweet smells of plastic and neon. There's a dizzy-land carnival operating in the parking lot covered with stringy-haired White people my grandfather would only describe as goyim. In this crowd, a speed queen is a washing machine and uppers are teeth.

I start my interviews here. I ask if Vallejo is so dead, why don't they build a library! I ask is it so boring here youth must go to SF to kill fags. Here are the responses.

"Yes, Vallejo is dead but that's no reason to beat anybody up. I think that's terrible and the killers ought to get the chair." That response from a Black woman with a child. Of the interviews I did, Black women were 100 percent in our corner. One Black woman could see the parallel of all minority struggles. The Blacks in general were more verbally responsive. Saying hello is a major emotional purge in California for a good many people, talking to a sound crew from a radio station can be intimidating.

I interviewed one tough look-

ing hispanic dude in his ride. He said, "I knew some of those dudes and I think it's wrong. Gay people are OK. I've got a cousin who's Gay and there's no gettin' around it 'cause he's family. What you do sexwise is nobody else's business. That's between God and man." This man was sincere and enlightened because he knew a Gay person. I liked him because of his honesty.

The muzak played in the mall bringing happiness to dirty little trees. People ate lunch while others watched them. Anytime you start dishing SF I suggest you go to Vallejo and hang out at the mall. I guarantee you the experience will sober yo' ass right up.

This is civilization in entropy with the warm impermanence of a phony peace, conducive to poor mental health. I interviewed a stringy-haired White boy who said he knew the men involved in the death of John O'Connell. "Yeah, I knew those dudes, they were crazy, man. They're all partners of mine. They didn't mean to kill nobody. They just wanted to have some fun and got carried away."

We moved on to the Show-Biz pizza parlor. I didn't see any show-biz people, so I interviewed the restaurant help. A Black man replied. "They shouldn't be Gay. They should be straight, or they should be put in a hospital until they get their mind right."

I don't know about you, but I could never get my mind right in a hospital.

When I asked Hilda housewife about the murders she giggled nervously and said, "Well it's wrong, I guess." I overheard another woman say, "They should be real men." I wanted to show her my pud and say "This is about as real as it gets, baby."

Two women asked us if we were, uh, you know, from San Francisco. Then finally, "Are you Gay?"

Oh yes indeed we are, and kids, we got a long struggle ahead of us. Tune in to KPFA-FM 94.1 at 10 p.m. Wednesday night. I plan on playing these interviews on GAY Radio-Fruit Punch.

Ya know, when you're suckin' on an ice cream cone, the whine of a dentist drill seems so far away. That's why this story needed to be told. If I hadn't gone there myself and read this story written by someone else I'd think the author had an axe to grind. Like Joan Crawford in *Straight Jacket* we just keep repeating to ourselves, "I'm doing OK, doing OK," and move gently forward knowing that the world can break your heart! ■

## River AIDS Support

The River AIDS Support Group is sponsoring a benefit Rummage Sale on April 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The donated items will be sold outdoors adjacent to Russian River Community Services, 15999 River Road, Guerneville. In case of rain the sale will be indoors at our new location, 13550 Church St., Guerneville.

For donation and pickup of saleable items, phone (707) 874-2816. Donations are tax deductible. ■

## Stanford Group Opposes Blood Test

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) opposes a new blood test approved by the Food and Drug Administration for HLTV-3 antibodies.

"This new blood test will not tell you if you have AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), but placed in the wrong hands it could be used against you," the GLAS Steering Committee warned in a statement being circulated to its membership.

"Further, the test is not very accurate. Roughly one in five people will test positively for exposure to the HTLV-3 virus whether or not they have really been exposed. There is evidence that a person whose blood tests negatively may nevertheless be carrying the HTLV-3 virus."

While blood centers will begin using this test soon, GLAS said, "You should not donate blood as a way to have yourself tested for AIDS."

The statement is the first ever made by the GLAS Steering Committee on the AIDS problem.

It closely parallels a statement made in January by the National Gay Task Force, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, and several other Gay and Lesbian organizations. They recommended that "except in rare circumstances, this test should be used only in the context of screening blood donations and as part of research programs that guarantee strict confidentiality."

More information may be obtained from the national AIDS hotline (800) 221-7044; Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (415) 673-3189; National Gay Rights Advocates (415) 863-3624; or GLAS (415) 497-1488, where messages may be left after a tape recorded message. ■

## East Bay AIDS Forum

The Pacific Center's East Bay AIDS Project is conducting a weekly series of educational forums on the AIDS epidemic as it is affecting Alameda County. Since people of all races, ages and lifestyles are being diagnosed with AIDS, the forums will include discussions of the disease, who is at risk, how the disease is transmitted, risk reduction guidelines, medical developments, impact of an AIDS diagnosis on the Person with AIDS, family and friends.

Public library meeting rooms have been chosen for the forums whenever possible, since they are accessible to public transportation and centrally located. All forums will be from 7-9 p.m. The schedule is as follows: April 16, Mission and C. Streets, Hayward, (784-8685); April 23, 7606 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, (828-1315). ■

Think Gay — Feel Gay — Touch Gay — Be Gay — with the Bay Area Reporter

## The EAST BAY LESBIAN/GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB endorses

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL:  
District #2 — Mary Moore\*

OAKLAND SCHOOL BOARD:  
District #6 — Alfreda Abbott

PERALTA COLLEGE BOARD:  
District #3 — Harley White  
District #5 — Darrell Carter\*  
District #7 — Dorothy "Doddie" Gifford

In each of the following races there were two candidates who sought our endorsement and were supportive of our issues. Neither received 60% of the vote which is required for our endorsement.

MAYOR OF OAKLAND:  
Lionel Wilson\*  
Wilson Riles, Jr.

OAKLAND SCHOOL BOARD:  
District #2 — Susan Rosenthal  
— Rita Sklar

PERALTA COLLEGE BOARD:  
District #4 — Marsha Corpes\*  
— Tim Orr

(\* = Incumbent)

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or P.O. Box 443, Berkeley 94701  
(Info: 843-2459 or 849-3983)



## A Big Letdown

ACARPOUS VENDUE  
(A Where's the Support Nose)

Little Mother and Ed Paulson are learning several things from their San Francisco auction series. One thing they discovered was that "hometown auction action" is quite a bit different from taking the show on the road, if you will. Another thing they found out was, bring along your own auctionable items because the patrons of the host bar aren't about to aid and abet the East Bay Volunteers.

Additionally, more time and energy is required to raise bucks over there than over here. Explanations for this phenomenon are most likely many and varied, but I know that Little Mother and Ed Paulson are just a tad more than unhappy from their results of this latest venture.

It never ceases to amaze and baffle me that it's a continuing scenario of the West Bay against the East Bay, even when all the effort is primarily for People with AIDS in San Francisco. I can well imagine the comments and criticism "if" one or two from San Francisco came to the East Bay to auction for our causes, and the only merchandise to sell was that which they themselves brought with them. How long would they continue to work for our side?

Is it because the bar owners aren't pushing the auctions? Is it because the patrons just don't care or are resentful of, and look upon "us" as interlopers? Has total apathy set in?

I seriously doubt any of the foregoing to be true, but the fact remains that Little Mother and Ed Paulson are running into extremely recalcitrant audiences. Discouraged, but undaunted, they will continue, but how long will (can) they persevere? With only a little over \$700 from the last auction—raised from the merchandise brought with them!—I honestly can't blame them for any amount of dispondency.

Their next effort will be on Sunday, April 28, at the Gangway on Larkin, 4 p.m. starting time. I'm sure that "Daddy Joe" will see to it that it's done up right.

If conditions shouldn't improve, I can only echo Little Mother's two-word comment at the last Tavern Guild meeting at the Turf Club—and the two words weren't "Merry Christmas"!

HOMOEROTIC  
PROMENADE  
(A Nose Caravan?)

"Honor Our Past—Secure Our Future" is the theme of this year's Freedom Day Parade, on Sunday, June 30. Debauchee, Phil Garibay, is keenly interested in being a vital part in making a presentation for Oakland. His is the only interest that I've heard of so far. With just a little over two months' working time, I can only wonder if he realizes just what is entailed: fundraisers for necessary operating capital, reliable committees that will show up and work, filling of required papers and insurances, purchasing the materials to build the float, securing a location for the building, selecting an appropriate design, completing the actual construction, and moving the dastardly thing across the bridge.

Somehow I know that if he sets his mind to it, he'll succeed—he's that kind of guy.

MELANGE  
(A Gallimaufry Nose)

Word has it that one of our locals, along with a partner, will be leaving our environs in the near future. The reason being that said local has purchased a bar in Modesto, and will move down there to operate it. Is Modesto really ready for ACIE Empress III, Taco Toni?

My spies inform me that the Spoiled Brat did indeed open on Thursday, April 4, even though everything was not completed. They also tell me that the much heralded stainless steel dance floor already has a dent in it! I've heard of instant antique, but instant distressing?

Boy-ar-DeDe asks me to remind you that Revol's Dining Room is now open on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. His very special "Ham in a can," totally sold out last week. Full of good ideas, that one!

It wasn't a definite "no," but then it wasn't a positive "yes," either; however, the seed has been planted and the queries about the possibility of purchasing one of our local pubs just may become a reality. When leases and condition of equipment are intimately discussed, one can't consider it "cocktail conversation."

"Eureka" (and I don't mean the vacuum!) just might be shouted by Paul and Steve. It seems that in the garage of the house they are renting in San Leandro (belonging to Paul's grandmother) they uncovered a violin, complete with case, but sans strings, with the signature "Stradivarius" and dated in the 1700s. If it proves to be authentic, me thinks there's beaucoup bucks there! Any possibility of my checking out the attic?

Good gracious! Not only does Delmar Selby watch TV with his adopted parents (Phil and Ron), but on a recent venture up Reno way, he was left in the protective hands of a competent baby sitter. Mind you, Delmar is a Cabage Patch Doll! I wonder if they'll buy him a pet rock?

A reminder: When traversing from Big Mama's to the Spoiled Brat and "versa visa," use the intersection with the green light, of course! Hayward's finest does issue J-walking tickets! A word to the wise . . .

This sentence contains three errors. I'll smile on that! Love, Nez

'Family' Revived  
In Sacto

A group met recently in South Sacramento and it was decided to revitalize Our River City Family. Several of the former officers were in attendance.

Martin Cain was selected as interim Director, the seventh person to hold that office. Mike Garten stated he will serve as interim Treasurer until regular elections are held in February 1986. Charlie Preston assumed the office of Historian, which he had held before.

Future plans include monthly potlucks and monthly dessert planning parties, plus the new aspect of networking.

The next Family potluck will be held April 27 in Sacramento and the dessert planning party will be May 15. For further information, call Martin (916) 682-5205 or Charlie (916) 391-1362.

NEZ PAS



What Am I Bid? Ed Paulson auctions at the Mint in San Francisco. Easter Bayers asking more help from their friends city-side in benefits for AIDS charities. (Photo: Rink)

U.S. Book Shops Rally  
Against Censors in Britain

LOS ANGELES—With a party of literates in Los Angeles and a gathering of poets in Minneapolis, the Lesbian and Gay bookstores of America are banding together to raise several thousand dollars for a beleaguered brother bookstore in London, England.

The cause is Gay's The Word, which saw several thousand of its titles seized in raids last year by British customs officials. Most of the material seized—including work by Gore Vidal, Roland Barthes, and John Rechy; and *The Joy of Gay Sex*, *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* and even *New York Native*—was imported from the United States and supplied by Giovanni's Room of Philadelphia.

In Los Angeles, the staff of A Different Light has organized a benefit on Sunday, April 21, featuring readings and performances by John Rechy, Malcolm Boyd, Clark Henley (*The Butch Manual*), Aaron Fricke (*Reflections of a Rock Lobster*), Dennis Altman (*The Homosexualization of America*), Alice Bloch (*Law of Return*), John Caffey (*The Coming Out Party*) and poets Eloise Klein Healy, Garland Kyle, David Trinidad and others. Long-time activist Ivy Bottini will be on hand with some wry comments, and actor Michael Kearns will auction off some rare books and not-so-rare odd items.

Also on hand will be Andrew Fodges (*With Downcast Gays*, *Alan Turing*), who is treasurer in England of the Gay's The Word Defence Fund.

In Minneapolis, meanwhile, A Brother's Touch is arranging a benefit reading by the staff and contributors of *The James White Review*, and other events are in the planning.

Several other stores, among them A Different Light in New York, Glad Day Bookshops in Toronto and Boston and Outright Books in Florida have already agreed to donate a percentage of their sales on benefit day.

"Clearly what's happening in Britain is something that could happen here, too," said Clair Peterson of A Different Light,

who first suggested the benefit. "Homophobia that threatens a bookstore in London can jeopardize a bookstore in Los Angeles or Detroit or Denver or Atlanta."

Peterson, also a writer, said his first love was English literature. "To find that this horribly repressive thing is happening in London is a real shock—but one that I hope awakens us all to the fragility of our freedoms."

## AIDS and Race

Why is AIDS only a "White disease"? Actually, it isn't, but many people still think it is, even many People of Color. To help correct this serious misperception, a group of Black Lesbian and Gay physicians and psychologists will discuss AIDS and its increasing impact in the Third World community.

The education forum will be held Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bella Napoli bar in Oakland, 2330 Telegraph Avenue.

The forum, sponsored by the Pacific Center AIDS Project, will include information on safe sex practices and HTLV-3 testing. There is no admission charge and the public is welcomed.

For more information, call the Lesbian/Gay Switchboard at the Pacific Center, 841-6224.

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THIS

## FRIDAY 12

• **Danny Williams and Ruth Jovel:** comedy, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$4. Acclaimed comic Danny Williams joins vocalist Ruth Jovel and her pianist Jessie Ortiz in an evening of Gay comedy and cabaret.

• **Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Choral:** music, St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6 advance, \$7 at the door, \$5 students and seniors.

• **Matthew Inge:** cabaret, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7, reservations at 776-2100.

• **High Hopes:** stage performance (see Saturday for details).

• **Richard Anthony Cardona:** reception, The Ambush, 1351 Harrison St., S.F., 9 PM, leather and black tie. Exhibition of Cardona's pastel works on paper opens tonight, through April 24.

• **Risk, Scrabble and Acquire:** games, Fraternal Order of Gays, 1416 21st Ave., S.F., 8 PM.

• **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE):** women's support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 4:30-6 PM. Call Dotty Fowler, 626-7000, for further information.

• **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM.

• **Two Queens in Search of a Motif:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$6. Award winning Tom Ammiano teams up with talented Doug Holsclaw for an evening of hilarity.

• **Joseph Taro:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.

• **Contradance:** stage performance, Eighth Street Studio, 2525 8th St., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$5. Jamie Greenblatt presents a play without words that blends dance, clowning and puppetry with music. Reservations at 486-1742.

• **Everyone Wants to be a Fascist:** stage performance, Co-Lab Theatre, 1805 Divisadero St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. A performance piece with dance and improvisation. Tickets at 346-4063.

• **In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., at 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Tennessee Williams' play is directed by Diana Duffer. Information at 893-3289.

• **Something Else to Do:** The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 6-10 PM. An alternative place to relax, have fun and meet people every Friday and Saturday.

• **Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

• **Acupuncture Free Clinic:** for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for information.

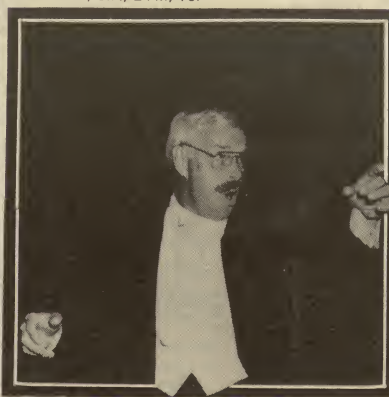
• **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.

## SATURDAY 13

• **Challenge to Be:** seminar, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., begins a five-week training program for future parsons. For more information, call 552-2909.

• **East Bay FrontRunners:** Strawberry Canyon run, mostly flat 3-4 mile loop. Meet at the U.C. Space Sciences Bldg. parking lot. For details, call 655-5013 or 526-7315.

• **Before Stonewall—The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community:** benefit film showing for the S.F. Lesbian and Gay History Project, Roxie Theatre, 3117 16th St., S.F., 2 PM, \$5.



The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Choral performs 'A Jubilant Song!' Friday and Saturday this week.



See the Dyketones April 18 when Us Girls are

• **The Last of the Romantics:** a benefit for the AIDS Food Bank, The Wagons, 917 Folsom St., S.F., 7-11 PM, \$5. Dancing, entertainment, raffle and buffet.

• **Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Choral:** music, Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$6 advance, \$7 door, \$5 students and seniors.

• **Girth and Mirth Club:** meeting, call 680-7612 for information on the club for chubbies and chasers.

• **Saturday Night at the Movies:** Billy DeFrank Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, 7 PM, call 293-4525 for information.

• **Deena, Princess of the Butterfly Galaxy:** buffet and show honoring Empress Sissy Spaceout and Emperor Ken, Alamo Square Saloon, 600 Fillmore St., S.F., buffet at 6 PM, show at 9 PM, \$3.

• **Two Queens in Search of a Motif:** comedy, 8 PM (see Friday for details).

• **Gay Comedy Night:** laughs, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Tonight with Tom Ammiano, Suzy Berger, and Karen Ripley.

• **Contradance:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Everyone Wants to be a Fascist:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Kate Clinton:** comedy, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$8.

• **Factwino—The Opera:** stage performance, Victoria Theatre, 16th St., at Mission, S.F., 8 PM, \$10. A benefit for the Abalone Alliance to help stop the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. Tickets at 861-0592.

• **High Hopes:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 and \$10. Julianne Gavin's play about a Lesbian couple deciding to have a child stretches family ties in a light-hearted romp.

• **In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Different Spokes:** decide and ride, meet in Golden Gate Park at 1 PM (Fell & Stanyan Sts.) and decide destination.

• **Writing Workshop:** for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.

## SUNDAY 14

• **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike, Castle Rock State Park, meet at 9:45 AM at the Safeway parking lot, Market and Church, S.F. Moderate to strenuous seven mile hike in the Santa Cruz mountains, share expenses of car pooling.

• **Different Spokes:** bicycle around Mt. Diablo, meet at Walnut Creek BART at 10 AM for 60 mile ride with some hills and brisk pace, bring lunch.

• **St. John the Evangelist:** The Parsonage explains its ministry to parish members after 11 AM services, 1661 15th St., near Valencia, S.F.



# WEEK



Girls are Dancin' in the Street at the Troc.

- **Lesbians Considering Parenthood:** workshops for East Bay Women, call Lyon-Martin Clinic, 641-0220 for details on the six week course.
- **Darlene Popovic with Ralph Michaels:** cabaret, Big Mama's, 22615 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 3 PM.
- **Aldo Bell:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 2 PM, \$4. Golden oldies and gems from this distinctive group.
- **Malvina:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Chris Cone, Nina Egert and Barbara Golden review the songs of the legendary Malvina Reynolds.
- **Mapenzi:** dancing, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM.
- **Faultline:** comedy, Julian Theatre, 953 De Haro St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. A benefit for the Julian Theatre.
- **Different Spokes:** decide and ride bicycling, meet at 10 AM in Golden Gate Park (Fell & Stanyan Sts.).
- **High Hopes:** stage performance (see Saturday for details).
- **In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Le Jazz Hot:** cabaret, The Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., 9 & 11 PM, \$1. Join MC's Consuelo del Rio and Tommi Rose every Sunday for a classy show featuring S.F.'s finest female impersonators.
- **All Join Hands:** square dancing, 2140 Market, S.F., 5 to 7 PM. Dance with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.

## MONDAY 15

- **April Harvest '85:** music and comedy, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10 and \$15. Benefit for the Mobilization Against AIDS; tickets at Headlines stores.
- **The Replacements:** music and dancing, I Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., doors open at 9 PM, show at 10:30 PM.
- **Judy Grahn:** lecture, New College, 777 Valencia St., S.F., 1:30 PM, free. The noted poet and cultural historian speaks on Gertrude Stein.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., at 17th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Theatre Rhinoceros' highly acclaimed AIDS Show continues at a new time and place. Tickets at 861-5079.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up, 7:30 PM.

## TUESDAY 16

- **A Bouquet— Their Wills:** music, Stern Hall, Stanford University, 8 PM. The Noh Oratorio Society presents Gertrude Stein's opera in honor of the 50th. anniversary of Stein's lectures at Stanford.
- **Kate Clinton:** comedy, Kresge Auditorium, Stanford University, 8 PM, sponsored by the Womyn's Entertainment forum.
- **Lynda Bergren:** cabaret, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 6-8 PM; also Wednesday and Thursday. Reservations at 788-8379.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Monday for details).
- **Gay Freedom Day Marching Band:** practice, every Tuesday, Gresham Hall, Grace Cathedral, S.F., 7:15 PM. Interested? Call the Bandfone, 621-5619.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** winter session, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

## WEDNESDAY 17

- **Three Sisters Who Are Not Sisters and Look and Long:** music, Gertrude Stein Opera Company, New Music Bldg., Stanford University, 8 PM. Two rare works by Stein are performed.
- **Judy Grahn:** lecture, New College, 777 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, free. Grahn continues her lectures on Gertrude Stein.
- **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, The Eagle, Harrison at 12th Sts., S.F., 9 PM.
- **The Police and the Gay Community:** discussion, Kendrick Hall, University of San Francisco, 6:30 PM, free. Sponsored by the USF law student's organization, Friends, Lesbians and Gays (FLAG); panel members include Police Commissioner Jo Daly.
- **Ronnie Klein:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F.
- **The Psychology of Elemental Movement:** workshop, The Pacific Center, Berkeley, continues its series on health and self-empowerment. Call 841-6224 for information.
- **High Hopes:** stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** rehearsal, Kassman Piano, 425 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM. For information call 566-6496.

## THURSDAY 18

- **Dancin' in the Street:** dancing, Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St., S.F., 9 PM to 4 AM, \$6. Us Girls presents the fabulous Dyketones in the West Side Story review.
- **Molly Breen:** cabaret, Buckley's Bistro, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Songs From the Heart and Other Chakras:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Becky Reardon and Judy Munsen present an evening of song.
- **High Hopes:** stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Saturday for details).
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** Foggy City Dancers, Rawhide, 280 7th St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **Writing Workshop:** for men 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for details.
- **All-Male Strip Show:** Renegade, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM, no cover.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **Couples Group II:** ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.

*The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays. This Week compiled by Ray O'Loughlin.*

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TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Tuesday Community League — 8:45 PM — League starts on May 28th — Cost is \$8.00 per week — 90% Handicap — 5 to A Team.
WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Wednesday Community League — 8:45 PM — League starts on May 29th — Cost is \$7.50 per week — 80% Handicap — 5 to A Team.
FRIDAY HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE	Hawaii Vacation League — 6:30 PM — League starts on June 14th — Cost is \$17.50 per week — 90% Handicap — 4 to A Team — EVERYONE goes to Hawaii in April of next year — Trip is included in evening fees.
SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE	Sunday Reno League — 6:30 PM — League starts on June 2nd — Cost is \$10.00 per week — 80% Handicap — 4 to A Team — EVERYONE goes to Reno in October.

### Afternoon Leagues

THURSDAY AFTERNOON LEAGUE	Thursday Afternoon Community League — 1:00 PM — League starts on May 30th — 90% Handicap — 3 to A Team.
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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## By Any Other Name

*Will the Valencia Rose Smell as Sweet Under New Ownership?*

by Bernard Spunberg

**F**or sale: One Gay cultural institution. The Valencia Rose, located in a hot pink building at 766 Valencia, opened in January '82. In three years, the Rose has risen to national prominence as a preeminent launching pad for Gay performing talent. New dramatic, musical, and visual artists have found a forum there. Contemporary Gay comedy was virtually born there. But the Rose is much more than a nightclub. It is a community resource. The Rose has opened its doors to lectures on the social and political history of the Gay community, meetings of various community organizations, and an exhibit by the Museum of Lesbian and Gay History. The Rose is the home of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee.

And now the Rose is for Sale. On what terms?

Ron Lanza, a former schoolteacher and aspiring actor, now shares ownership of the business and a 15-year lease with his partner, Hank Wilson. Their terms of sale are inherent in the genesis of the Rose.

Lanza and Wilson met at a meeting of BAGL—Bay Area Gay Liberation—in 1974. At that time, Tom Ammiano, now called the Mother of Gay Comedy, and Harvey Milk, were also members of the organization. In a matter of months, Lanza and Wilson had pooled their material and spiritual energies to rent 32 Page St. for \$500 per month. The space was used for Gay political and social gatherings, and was also used by the Gay Men's Theater Collective for its first production of *Crimes Against Nature*. In the meantime, Paul Hardman had rented 330 Grove from the City for purposes similar to Lanza and Wilson's. On condition that 330 Grove be returned to the City on request, Hardman's rent was one dollar per month. In two and a half years of operation, however, there were only four or five months when Lanza and Wilson did not have to subsidize rent payments on 32 Page from their private incomes as teachers. They knew the realization of their dreams would require substantial capital, so they closed the club.

Lanza and Wilson next immersed themselves in the business of refurbishing and operating residential hotels in the Tenderloin. This business still occupies Wilson. Lanza, however, was unfulfilled. After three years, he informed Wilson of plans to take singing lessons and begin a new project along the lines of 32 Page. Lanza recalls

his fateful cruise down Valencia Street.

"Driving along Valencia, I saw the Venus de Milo Used Furniture Store," Lanza said. "It had originally been a mortuary. I pulled over, went inside, and felt that I should—at least temporarily—play the role of a potential customer just to get the look of the land. The building was for sale and, though it was pretty run down and shabby, it looked promising. We made an offer, and then the owner took the building off the market. He was, however, willing to lease."

"I pouted for about a month, and then I realized that it was the use of the building we wanted, not ownership, necessarily," Lanza continued. "We nailed down the lease for 15 years. Five years at \$2,200, five years at \$2,700, and the last five years were to be determined by market rates. We took possession of the space in February of '81, so the first third of the lease expires next February."

"We subsidized the Rose very heavily for the first two years. We tried full-course meals, but despite a genius chef in Ward Smith, our restaurant never took off. Thanks largely to the dedication of my co-manager and talent scout, Donald Montwill and, later, publicist Dennis Powers, things turned around for the Rose in the third year. Of course, turning around for us means breaking even and maybe making a few bucks. It has

nothing to do with rolling in money. Though we've recently opened a second showroom called the Club Paradiso, the Rose has never been enormously profitable. We don't have high prices, we don't have two-drink minimums, we don't have hard liquor—we don't even have Coca-Cola and hamburgers. Those are idiosyncratic choices that a new owner doesn't have to abide by. There's money to be made in hamburgers and soda pop."

**F**ortunately, there's at least a little bit of money to be made in entertainment too. The performers who have helped and been helped by the Rose form a *Who's Who* of Gay showbiz. Comics Tom Ammiano, Lea de Laria, Doug Holsclaw, Suzy Berger, Mario Mondelli, Danny Williams, Ellen Brook Davis, Linda

'The reality is that the Rose is still up for sale and the right buyer has not come along.'

—Ron Lanza

Moakes, Marga Gomez, and Monica Palacios have all performed at the Rose's regular Gay Comedy Night. Charles Busch has distinguished the Rose with performances of his one-man plays. Lanford Wilson's *Balm in Gilead*, Doric

at the Rose regularly, as do performances by that contemporary Gay acoustic pop duo, Romanovsky and Phillips. Ron Lanza well remembers his first meeting with Ron Romanovsky, as well as contributions made by other individuals.

"I'll never forget the day Ron Romanovsky walked in the door with a feather in his hat, carrying his guitar, looking like a little lost lamb. He was a dear, sweet child. I loved his music, and my heart went out to him and Paul Phillips right away."

"Without Tom Ammiano, there would be no Gay comedy. I am sure of it. Tom was there on the Mondays when we had 11 people as well as the Saturdays when we had 22 and considered ourselves successful. Now, if it drops below 60 or 70, we're a little annoyed."

Minor annoyances in no way diminish the value performers derive from their work at the Rose. Doug Holsclaw, co-star of *Hissy Fits*, *Two Queens in Search of a Motif*, and a regular on *Gay Comedy Night*, tells all.

"If the Rose weren't here, a lot of my best work would never have been done," Holsclaw said. "Of course, the other night I was forced to scream, 'What has been done about the leak in my dressing room?' I don't know if

that leak will ever be fixed. Will Ron Lanza ever be fixed? Rumors about Ron's miserliness are entirely unfounded. Ron is the salt of the earth. Ron even gave me a cup of coffee once. Luckily, I had my own *Cremora* with me."

Suzy Berger, another Comedy Night regular who appeared in *Hissy Fits* as well as *Balm in Gilead* and *Street Theater*, gets to the heart of the matter fast.

"You want to know something really, really, really good about the Rose? It's a place for men and women. You can go with your men and women friends together and have fun."

**R**on Lanza wants to move to Los Angeles to fulfill his ambition to be an actor. His ambition, however, is not nearly strong enough for him to leave the future of the Rose entirely to chance.

"The Rose went up for sale in January. Meanwhile, rumors of the Rose closing have been flying. The reality is that the Rose is still up for sale and the right buyer has not come along. We're real flexible on the terms, price—the only point on which we're not flexible is the use of the space. Of course, if it's an all-cash deal, the new owner can do whatever he or she wants. But if we're given a down payment and asked to carry paper on the Rose, we've got to have confidence that the physical plant won't be dramatically changed."

"Sold or not, we plan a Celebration of the Rose in June to coincide with Gay Freedom Month. The Rose has been a great success, and we want to celebrate that success. Even if the Rose were to disappear tomorrow, we would all be very pleased that the Rose ever happened at all. But it's not going to disappear tomorrow and, under different people, the Rose can be even better than it's been in the past."



Lea DeLaria and Ron Lanza hang out at the Rose (Photo: Rink)



The Gang's All Here — (l. to r.) Donald Montwill, David Alphin, Jeanine Strobel, Lea DeLaria, Tom Ammiano, Ron Lanza, Danny Williams, and Monica Palacios (Photo: Rink)



## Look No Further

by Paul August Cacciotti

Theatre Rhinoceros opened the fourth show of its current season last week, Julianne Gavin's *High Hopes*, and aside from its syrupy title, it's a rich and riotous comedy.

*High Hopes* is the story of a Lesbian couple, Kate and Melissa, who deal with the crisis of informing parents of their relationship. This discussion is precipitated by the women's decision to have children by male donors, and they must prepare the "grandparents" with the facts. Joining our couple is Kate's straight brother, Patrick, an obnoxious young man who delights in pitting people against one another.

Enter Melissa's daffy Mom, Betty, living upstairs while her divorce is finalized, and Kate's parents, Winnie, a pillar of cool, and George, a befuddled man at odds with his wife, and you have the complete list of inmates of Gavin's swank and elegant prison.

The subject of *High Hopes* is not an original one, and one that at first I thought I would not enjoy, but I was dead wrong. Gavin has written a comedy which can only be compared to Neil Simon at his finest. Her flair for the absurd, the ridiculous, and the exposition of petty human behavior hits home time and again. Complimented and defined by Kris Gannon's razor-sharp direction, *High Hopes* spins, swirls, and sparkles with laughter, love, and yes, hope.

The roles of Kate and Melissa are handled masterfully by Ann Darragh and Michele Simon, who provide just the right

amounts of sanity and exasperation. Virginia Abascal and Tony Hartford are simply perfect as Kate's dueling parents. But it is Donna Davis as Betty and Darin Singleton as Patrick who almost steal the show from the rest of this well-rounded cast.

*High Hopes* is set in a stylish Los Angeles apartment. Jeff Wisor has designed a set, with complimenting lights, with a smart, mod look of money and harmony with great attention to details. I was pleased to see everyone reading the major L.A. paper instead of a doctored San Francisco edition. The entire atmosphere of the setting rings true, from a coffee-maker that is functional to the thermostat on the wall. The only problem I had with the set is the fact that none of the doors have any kind of masking behind them, which partially destroys the realism created by the rest of the production.

If there is any flaw to be found in the writing of *High Hopes*, it would be that this play teaches us nothing new. Informing your parents you're Gay is difficult. Yes. Hiding the truth from people you love is dishonest and tiresome. True enough. Finding the right sperm donor can present problems. Again, right on the money. But . . . we knew this.

But on the whole, if you're looking for a place to spend a most enjoyable two hours in the theater, look no further than *High Hopes*. ■

**High Hopes**  
Theatre Rhinoceros  
through May 19: 532-4100



Michele Simon in *High Hopes*

## Still Hungry

by Bernard Spunberg

Hot dogs and hamburgers taste great at a picnic. Served on fancy china glowing in candlelight, the same fare is—well, it's a let-down. *Factwino: The Opera*, currently produced by the SF Mime Troupe at the Victoria Theater, is a hot dogs and hamburgers kind of show. A condensation of *Factwino Meets the Moral Majority* and *Factwino vs. Armageddonman*, the new work expresses the mildly left-wing values common to all Mime Troupe shows. Society's ills are

caused by blind obedience to a vast military-industrial complex. Ignorance and prejudice fostered by fundamentalist Christian groups generate the fear that finds evil in human diversity.

If you happen to accept these ideas—and I do—*Factwino: The Opera* will please you. If you don't already believe in the message, you're unlikely to be convinced.

*Factwino* himself is a Tenderloin derelict blessed with perfect recall of facts and the ability to make other people think—but only as long as he keeps off the bottle. No problem. Alcoholic though he may be, *Factwino* is a man with a mission more ex-

citing than scoring another bottle of Ripple. But wait. If *Factwino* spreads too much truth, evil Armageddonman will be thwarted. Will he capture *Factwino*? Will he force a drop of demon rum down *Factwino's* throat?

*Factwino: The Opera* is played in a style broad enough to reach the back bleachers, let alone the back row. And though the super-obvious approach is appropriate outdoors, it's wasted on audiences undistracted by mosquitoes, airplanes, and cheers rising from adjacent baseball diamonds. In fact, an indoor audience is hungry for a little subtlety.

(Continued on page 38)

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Simple Fashion is often the best—at the White Party. (Photo: Rink)

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## FILM

### Nostalgia or Revelation

by Steve Warren

**F**ifty years in the living, three years in the making, 87 minutes in the viewing, *Before Stonewall* puts Lesbians and Gay men in touch with our roots.

After a series of fund-raising "sneak previews" in San Francisco and other cities, the documentary is having a brief theatrical life before it appears on PBS in the Fall. The original television contract was for a 60-minute version, but director and co-producer Greta Schiller says a screening of a 100-minute rough cut persuaded the network to take the whole thing.

At its present length, *Before Stonewall* will leave you clamoring for more. Through archival footage and interviews with 35 people who remember pre-liberation Gay life, the film tells a story that will be nostalgia or a revelation, depending on your age.

Most of the 35 interviewees deserve features of their own. Like the cast of *Word Is Out*, they will seem like old friends by the time the picture ends. Some really are old friends, as a number of Bay Area personalities are featured, with even more on hand for a "Black Cat Reunion" filmed at the Valencia Rose.



Leapin' Lesbians — *Before Stonewall* producer-director Greta Schiller (r.) and archival research director Andrea Weiss celebrated last fall at the San Francisco preview of their film. (Photo: S. Warren)

The work of archival research director Andrea Weiss deserves special recognition. In addition to such obvious items as Ronald Reagan ordering a drag show to entertain the troops in the oft-seen *This Is The Army*, she's unearthed rare footage, much of it from silent films, of effeminate men and masculine women in (mostly unidentified) Hollywood films.

Most of these, she admits privately, are lifted completely out

able to pry CBS loose from an interview Mike Wallace had done in the '60s with an actual homosexual, who remained hidden behind a plant to conceal his identity.

Despite the oppression, the witch hunts, the forced marriages, and the ostracism they endured, the people in *Before Stonewall* have funny and touching stories to tell about how and where they got together, how they circumvented or defied authority, and how they established their own lines of communication, found acceptance in certain places, and laid the foundation for the Gay community as we know it today.

One small complaint I must raise is with the use of Rita Mae Brown as narrator. While I love her to death and she's as charming an extemporaneous speaker as I've heard, she doesn't read a prepared script well. Fortunately, her part is too small to do much damage.

Perhaps the best news about *Before Stonewall* is that it's as entertaining as it is educational, and that should be as true for non-Gays who see it as it is for us.

(Roxie)

'Most of the 35 interviewees deserve features of their own.'

Unlike *Word Is Out*, *Before Stonewall* has a structure which is chronological rather than merely thematic. It's not so rigid as to be inhibiting, nor is it comprehensive—the 30s whiz by in an instant while the '40s last almost as long as the original decade. The filmmakers have assembled the best of what they had, and it's obvious that getting it was a difficult but rewarding task.

of context and had nothing to do with Gay life in the original films. One comedy about a nelly cowboy, however, really was about a nelly cowboy; and the actor who starred in *The Soldiers* in 1923 was none other than Stan Laurel, shortly before he was permanently mated (on screen) with Oliver Hardy.

Her greatest frustration, Weiss says, came in being un-

## STAGE

### So Farce So Good

by Steve Warren

**F**or pure laugh-your-ass-off silliness you can't beat *Noises Off*. I loved it in London and I'm happy to report that the American production, while different, is just as good.

The first act introduces us to *Nothing On*, the play within the play, and the company that is dress-rehearsing it for a tour of England's less prestigious stages. It's one of those frivolous sex farces that keep British theater alive while Andrew Lloyd Webber awaits his muse.

Pay attention to this foolish bauble. In the second act we see it from backstage a month later, when cheap hotels, romantic realignments and temperament have taken their toll. With incredible timing at a whirlwind pace, the cast goes through helzapoppin' that makes "onstage" activity look placid. Sit well back so you'll have a better chance of taking it all in.

By the third act, another month later, *Nothing On* has reached the dreaded Stockton-on-Tees, which must be England's Cleveland. We watch from the audience's perspective again, but our knowledge of

what goes on behind the scenes helps us understand the hilarious problems that beset the performance. This act is less of a comedy from the non-stop hysteria of the second in the current production than it was in London.

*Noises Off* is not a show amateurs can throw together in a couple of weeks. Michael Frayn's script, directed to

wrong. She knows just when she can milk an extra little personal laugh without spoiling the momentum of the whole.

The cast includes the excellent Brian Murray and Douglas Seale, and the always reliable, should-be stars Amy Wright and Paxton Whitehead.

Don't worry about inside, "show biz" humor. Everything you need to know to enjoy this

'Noises Off is not a show amateurs can throw together in a couple of weeks.'

perfection by Michael Blake-more (encoring from England and New York), leaves no margin for error. The cast is in constant motion, with no more time to think than we have between laughs. It takes disciplined, well-rehearsed professionals to bring this off and make it look easy in the bargain.

For that reason, *Noises Off* should be an ensemble piece rather than a star vehicle, but Dorothy London is so wonderful I forgive her for proving me

show is right there on the stage.

Some sort of medical warning is in order, however, especially if your laugh muscles are out of shape. I thought I was okay, having survived Greater Tuna the week before and Carole Cook the week before that, but *Noises Off* kept me laughing longer and harder than perhaps ever before in my life.

**Noises Off**  
Curran Theatre  
thru May 4; 673-4400





## EVEN IN BABYLON

### Absolved at Sutter's Pot Luck With Pippin

JOHN F. KARR

The stamped metal, industrial stairway leading to the new basement cabaret at Sutter's Mill made me wonder what sort of sub-cellar storage room I was going to find. Such dire expectations were dumped when I entered a hospitably comfortable and handsomely appointed cabaret. It's cozy and warm, and I look forward to many happy hours there. The line-up of performers is swell—Samantha Samuels' opening week was succeeded by weeks with Ruth Hastings and then Bobbe Norris with Larry Dunlap. Lynda Bergren is on next, April 16, 17, 18, and then—at long last—there's the return of the much-requested duo from La-La Land, The Hal and David Show (April 23-25). Shows are from 6 to 8 p.m.; call 788-8379 for reservations.

Sam's closing night was hot. In shocking cerise stockings and a ruffled skirt slit way past the proverbial "up to here," she proved herself quite an entertainer. She commanded the stage from beginning to end, talking away between songs in a most bemused and amusing fashion. She's a singer of calculated spontaneity—her sudden and extreme shifts of vocal dynamics and body movements can be overdone, but in a large hall she reaches the back rows larger than life. This is not a small act. She has moments of caricature, but her style allows her to be excitingly theatrical. Her overwhelming performances make me think Phil Spector wouldn't have needed those elaborate recording studios to create his Wall of Sound if he'd had Sam. Her material is excellent, from Piaf to pop jazz, reworked standards to Ronstadt. I liked most the songs by Stephen Shore, which are exclusively Sam's. Propulsively rhythmic, contemporary in emotion, and dramatic in shape and melody, they fit Sam perfectly. Some of them are from a book musical she has performed in Texas—I wish she'd do it here!

It took Ruth Hastings awhile to slip into gear on her opening night, but she looked divine in a white strapless evening gown, and she shimmered in paste diamonds. She was in a rare mood, talking merrily away in her typically random, rambling fashion, but this evening her tales were particularly telling. And rather disarming.

One expects Ruth's songs to be disarming. On her big set pieces—Sondheim, Brel, dramatic ballads like "I Only Wanna Laugh" and "Old Friend"—she is herself personally vulnerable to the emotions she portrays. Never appearing to be acting, she lives inside the music, and her feelings cut quickly and directly through to us on the same emotional level. It can hurt.

Opening evening, her stories were as candidly disarming as her songs, as she spoke of the early days of her career. Just learning her craft, and insecure, she followed the demands of her audience, delivering what they demanded. This was usually an excess of emotion, larded over with lots of chest voice. She was performing nightly, and the audience wanted a lot. "The audience wasted me," she confided, and at one point she actually sought counseling. "I couldn't face their need," she said baldly. It was a tough moment.

That's what an audience is—A Need. They need glamor, joy, life, pain, emotion, music. That need has literally killed some performers. It's Ruth's personal and performing strength that allows her to fulfill that need, feed off it, quench it, and grow stronger herself. But it wasn't always so. I felt guilty for a moment, being that audience, before Ruth's musical embrace absolved all.

★ ★ ★

In recent weeks the 1177 Club on California Street has shared—with Sutter's Mill and Buckley's—the lead in presenting cabaret performers. I saw excellent performances there by pianist Joshua Rich and singer Cindy Herron. More on them later; watch the 1177 for future bookings.

And to think only last season I suggested (and in *print*!) that a suaver spokesman be hired by Pocket Opera to deliver Donald Pippin's narration! Can I ever be absolved of that!

Donald Pippin is Pocket Opera, and if his stammering, gasping, tongue-swallowing delivery derives from some branch of the Ed Sullivan School of Public Speaking, then so be it. His very lack of finesse makes this doormouse of delight all the more cherishable. The hilarious lines he deadpans, the biting bits of satire and not-so-innocent asides, are set off, gold dust in the river bed, by the little fish who gasps them. Pippin is an addiction, and I couldn't do without his droll and merry wit.

He is also the soul of Pocket Opera, providing this city with a good deal more than Noel Cowardian synopses of opera. Pippin not only coaches the musicians and singers, but chooses the works to be performed as well. In that, he has performed a musical function for local opera lovers that deserves to be rewarded in the highest. I expect the mayor to make a Pippin Proclamation immediately, calling attention to the services he has rendered.

While the Opera House continues to serve up the usual tried and true, with an occasional unusual sidecourse (usually interesting to sample but overfilling), Pippin wheels on course after course of the most delicious delicacies. Pot luck with Pippin serves up gourmet food in down-home style.

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The Hal and David Show will be at Sutter's Mill April 23-25 (Photo: Rink)

tic curiosities that are revealed as a substantial fare. One ponders why some of these works left the standard repertoire. I also wonder why more of the men I see at the Opera House aren't at Pippin's performances; or do their tastes run only to aging superstar sopranos?

Several times this season Pocket Opera has given performances that were musical revelations to me. Nobody else is polishing up Offenbach's gems for spiffy new outings. And where else would I have learned that Martha, long thought of as a one or two tune ("Ah, So Pure" and "The Last Rose of Summer") drooper, was a vital and entertaining work.

Martha was perhaps the greatest revelation Pippin offered this season; after all, I know Offenbach's shows will be fun, even if I don't know the score already. By reputation a faded pastel, Martha proved to be vibrantly colorful: socially relevant, it comments strongly on class equality, women's rights and the fickle heart. Not only are *cosi fan tutti*, but the guys are pretty *fan tutti* too.

And what a wealth of melody, plus coloratura for days. I was in roudale heaven. Ellen Kerri-gan, the Caballe-replacement of the Opera House, is a Pocket Opera regular. Although her phrasing and technique are superb, her manner can be (like

the young Sutherland)...languishing. But in coloratura work she shows some brilliant spunk, her smile illuminating her broad face and lighting the hall. Her extended duet (honey, trilling for days) with mezzo Linda Caple in Martha's first act could have been encored all night.

But then we would have missed two other acts of sprightly music, pointed comedy, and nostalgic romance—adorable even though "The Last Rose" gets plugged 'til you want to plug it.

The Bridge of Sighs was this season's Pippin-present from Offenbach, a three act work of feisty delight. Offenbach had

(Continued on page 38)

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## BACK TO BATON

### A Question of Balance

PHILIP CAMPBELL

Even without the irrepressible Charlotte "Tex" Mailliard seeing to everyone's drinks and plumping pillows, the San Francisco Symphony knows how to throw a party and manufacture good vibes. The recent afternoon spent introducing new music director designate Herbert Blomstedt was just what the working press is always after—a free lunch.

Sumptuously catered by the trendy Narsai David in the elegant Wattis Room of Davies Hall, the afternoon was long on pleasantries but noticeably short on hard news. It will take more than this encounter to get a bead on Herbert Blomstedt.

Despite the fact that he left his native United States at the tender age of two, Blomstedt's English is surprisingly limited. Carefully phrasing his brief opening statement and bordering on terseness in his responses to questions, the Maestro gives an impression of calm professionalism with no pretensions to "star" quality.

It doesn't matter much if his personality remains unknown for now. He would be able to coast on his resume indefinitely. Internationally known and respected, Blomstedt is well represented on disc, and comes to San Francisco after a ten-year stint as music director of the venerable Dresden Staatskapelle. If he's not a sparkling conversationalist, he is an eminent musician.

In a mildly impertinent attempt to spice up the bland proceedings, several press members deliberately posed some troublesome questions. Blomstedt replied with refreshing candor to some, and allowed public relations people to field the unanswerable.

Admitting dissatisfaction with the acoustics of Davies, he vowed



Herbert Blomstedt

to investigate possible solutions, while avoiding rather neatly the issue of orchestral performance. Blomstedt doesn't pretend to know contemporary American composers, but he promises to keep an open mind, and will trust in the advice of local aides.

No one really expects much to change in terms of musical personnel or administrative staff. The "tree shaking" that usually comes with a new director isn't likely until the following season. After all, Blomstedt won't be around much at first.

Still involved with European commitments, Maestro Blomstedt will only conduct eight of the 26 weeks of subscription concerts next season. He will also lead the annual Beethoven

Festival and take the orchestra on a two-week tour of the United States. The following year he will conduct a full 15 weeks, as contractually determined.

The 1985-86 Season looks good on paper—nothing too terribly adventurous, but respectable. There will be five premieres (a shockingly small number), but an American composer who also happens to be a woman will be given a week-long salute (about time!).

Highlights in the artist department come with an unusually rich year for the splendidly qualified Symphony Chorus, a roster of international stars that includes pianists Rudolf Serkin and Andre Watts (definitely on separate bills), the ubi-

(Continued on page 38)

## FROM FIFTH POSITION

### Connections

KEITH WHITE

I managed to catch the final performance of the Dancers' Stage Company with Artists of the Minnesota Dance Theatre—the latter in its West Coast premiere performance. Dancers' Stage is a commercial ballet school on Brady Street, just South of Market, which has steadily gained in popularity since it opened about two years ago. One of the co-directors, Kristine Elliott, was for many years a dancer in American Ballet Theatre, retiring as a soloist several years ago. The other co-director, Yehuda Maor (formerly of Israel's Bat Dor company), is also a choreographer with ambitions toward establishing a working chamber ballet company here. The printed program only identifies the company affiliations of three of the guests, but I was told only two of the nineteen dancers listed on the program were local; the evening belonged to Minnesota. Special guests were Martine Van Hamel and Kevin MacKenzie of American Ballet Theatre.

Rarely seen outside its geographic area, Minnesota Dance Theatre was preceded by its reputation as a sturdy and progressive midwestern dance institution of some 20 years' history. Away from its home turf

and without the full company present, this engagement probably was not fairly representative. But even on a liberal curve, one can only think of MDT as a modest regional ensemble, limited geographically and by the style of its teacher-director, Loyce Houlton. Having greatly admired one Houlton piece ("Wingborne") when it was given by Dance Theatre of Harlem in Oakland last Spring, I suspect that either Houlton did not send her best work to Dancers' Stage, or that it takes a better company than MDT to show the work to advantage.

A 1984 Loyce Houlton pointe ballet called Three Movements for Eight, set to a Boccherini cello concerto, opened the program. Distractedly classical, the work requires a more classical technique than most of the dancers had to give, yet its structure breaches classical sensibility. The second movement pas de deux, for example, uses allegro dance steps against the music's slow tempo, a difficult approach to classical choreography that here looked confusingly unmusical—as though the technician had played the wrong tape. The dancers struggled openly with the choreography, and given the close proximity of the audience in the loft-sized studio at

Dancers' Stage, every difficulty seemed larger than life. Houlton, who is known more as a modernist, may have made this piece to challenge her company, or as a gift to one of her current lead dancers, Linda Gudmundson, who is classical both by background and temperament.

Gudmundson is a strong dancer undermined by her own mannerisms. Like certain European ballerinas of earlier decades, Gudmundson wears the expression of "poetic pain," punctuating her every movement with a suppliant knitted brow as though she is experiencing, simultaneously, a headache and an exquisite fragrance. Deeper and more personal than simple overacting, this countenance is an esthetic decision that suggests Gudmundson's philosophy about ballet: that dancing is a larger, more painful and more exquisite experience, than any other endeavor. Her partner, Michael Bjerknes (formerly of the Joffrey Ballet), was visiting from Milwaukee Ballet, a guest of the guests. Their work together was technically without incident, but seemed to have nothing to do with Gudmundson's overpowering vision, which itself had nothing to do with the ballet.

(Continued on page 38)



# S.F. International Film Festival

With more than 80 films from 30 nations to be screened over 11 nights at six different theaters, this year's edition of the S.F. International Film Festival attempts to be something for everyone.

The feature programs will unspool at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre and the McBean Theatre in the adjacent Exploratorium. A Latin America series will play mainly at the York Theatre (2789 24th St.), an Asian series at the Kokusai Theatre in Japantown, a midnight series at the Roxie Theatre (3117 16th St.), and repeat screenings of selected films at the Pacific Film Archives in Berkeley.

In-person tributes to Ann-Margret and Vincent Price are scheduled at the Palace of Fine Arts (Price: April 14, 2 p.m./Ann-Margret: April 18, 8 p.m.). Each will feature clips from their best films, a question and answer period, followed by a full-length screening of a film they have chosen.

Because there are so many films, it will be impossible to see them all, if one could be that masochistic. Based on advance information and press screenings, here is a list of films that promise to be the highlights of this year's festival.

An asterisk beside the title indicates that the film will have a commercial theater engagement sometime after festival play.

\* Camila: Opening night (\$35 includes pre and post dinner and party), April 11.

\* The Company of Wolves: April 12, 9:30 p.m., Palace.

The King of China: April 12, midnight, Roxie.

The Stand In: Bay Area filmmaker comedy with local Talent, April 13, 6 p.m., Exploratorium.

\* Blade on the Feather: April 13, 7 p.m., Palace.

Blue Money: April 13, 8 p.m., Exploratorium.

A Midsummer Night's Dream: April 15, 7 p.m., Palace.

Sex Mission: April 15, 9 p.m., Palace.

Every Picture Tells a Story: April 15, 9:30 p.m., PFA.

\* Benvenuta: April 16, 9:30 p.m., Palace.

French Cancan: April 17, 2 p.m., Palace.

Favorites of the Moon: April 19, 7 p.m., Palace.

Le Bon Plaisir: April 19, Palace.

Strangler vs. Strangler: April 19, Midnight, Roxie.

Dr. Fischer of Geneva: April 21, 7 p.m., Palace.

\* A Private Function: Closing Night Gala (\$35 includes pre and post parties), April 21, 8 p.m., Palace.



Puck You! — Lindsay Kemp plays Shakespeare's sprite Robin Goodfellow, known as Puck, in Celestino Coronado's film of Kemp's stage production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

Although it doesn't look hastily or cheaply made, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was shot in 12 days on a minuscule budget, half of which went for eye makeup.

Brush up your Shakespeare before seeing it; some 90 percent of the dialogue has been deleted in favor of a ballet-fantasia presentation. In a Gay

twist, the enchanted pair who must love the first creatures they behold upon awakening, fall for members of their own sex. Rather than carrying this to its unlabeled conclusion, it's resolved in a bisexual orgy, after which the usual pairs are formed.

Instead of a donkey, Bottom is transformed into a non-specific creature with a phallic proboscis, thus precluding "Titania-and-ass" jokes. Titania, as played by The Incredible Orlando, looks like Charles Pierce as

Carol Channing doing Queen Victoria. Lindsay Kemp, whose stage production this is a film of, plays Puck as Yul Brynner with Mr. Spock's ears. He dallies with the Changeling, a youth with the body of a man and a voice like Yma Sumac's.

The rustics do *Romeo and Juliet*, not a takeoff thereon, and the actor playing Juliet manages the difficult task of swishing on stilts. This surefire sequence gets laughs even from those

(Continued on next page)

## A Private Function

With Maggie Smith, Michael Palin, Denholm Elliott, and Betty the Pig, *A Private Function* is a strictly parochial British wartime comedy which has us laughing uproariously in its broader moments—the pig's private functions—and just mildly smiling otherwise. Smith is always a delight to watch and Palin, of Monty Python fame, is not without his droll gestures, but *A Private Function* (which cleaned up at the British Academy Awards), has so many homeland idioms only Britishers will enjoy that many parts of it do not seem remotely funny. Directed by Malcolm Mowbray and written with style by Alan Bennett, the film focuses on chiropodist Palin and his ambitious, class-climber wife Smith as they awkwardly try to buy into the upper classes by stealing a black market pig in ration-bound WWII England. The acting carries the film when the jokes don't, yet we get the impres-

sion that the movie is really just a private function.

M. Lasky

## The King of China

Paris has its Bowery, its Tenderloin. That's the milieu of *The King of China*, which gives you more insight than you probably want into the lives of the have-not street dwellers. The focal point is a warehouse where the winos and winettes sell the scavengings by the pound. The entrepreneur, an above-average bum, and a frigid, perhaps retarded woman, are the main characters in this potentially interesting but turgid drama which brilliant acting, clever music, and the confident direction of debuting Fabrice Cazeneuve can't save from the scrap heap.

S. Warren



Stop That Pig! — Gilbert (Michael Palin) tries to catch Betty the Pig as she rushes towards his terrified wife, Joyce (Maggie Smith) in *A Private Function*.



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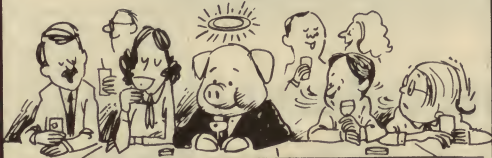


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'Not Bluffing' — An innocent party game takes an erotic twist as Camila (Susú Pecoraro) uses it to cop a feel from Father Ladislao (Imanol Arias) in Camila, this year's S.F. Film Festival opener.

(Continued from previous page)

who are immune to the film's other charms.

Sets and costumes are lovely, camp and spirits high, and nudity tasteful. Carlos Miranda's music ranges from Elizabethan to full orchestral, with some Flamenco and African rhythms thrown in. Unfortunately, most of the vocals—especially the female voices, whether true or falsetto—are unintelligible.

Apparently intended as a celebration of Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night's Dream is not totally successful, but it can be pleasant if you know the original well enough to follow the plot. Many critics at the screening I attended apparently felt otherwise, some leaving and others making hostile noises.

S. Warren.

## Camila

Any member of Dignity can tell you tales of love among the Catholic clergy that would get a rise out of your rosary. Some may even know the true story of the suicides of the "Singing Nun" and her "friend."

Camila is a virtual legend in Argentina, suppressed by various dictators because it involves a regime too similar to theirs for comfort. It happened in 1847, under Juan Manuel de Rosas,

when Camila O'Gorman ran away with Father Ladislao Gutierrez. A coalition of church and state hunted them down and executed them, ostensibly for sacrilege but more accurately for independent thought.

The film was co-authored and directed by Maria Luisa Bemberg, a sexagenarian grandmother who took up filmmaking about a decade ago. It's less feminist in tone than her first two features but does feature a strong heroine who knows her own mind. Camila (Susú Pecoraro, who looks like a plainer version of Ann-Margret) insists on marrying for love, and she's fallen in love with the new priest, Father Ladislao (Imanol Arias).

The story unfolds inevitably—or predictably, if you feel more negative towards it. Camila is relatively socialistic for a woman of her class, but is selfish enough to go after what she wants without considering the consequences for others. The priest tries discouraging her and flagellating himself, both rather half-heartedly, but finally succumbs. They start a new life together until fate catches up with them.

There's a Bergmanesque quality to the look of the film, which has been a great success in Argentina and competed unsuccessfully for this year's Oscar. Its conclusion is too foregone to stir the emotions as it might have, but it's a nicely made bit of history that night scare repressed lovers back into the closet.

S. Warren

## Sex Mission

A comedy from Poland? What, are they kiddin' us? No way. Sex Mission proves to be hysterically humorous as it pokes fun at the war between the sexes and political ideologies as well. Using a sci-fi story as the backdrop, Juliusz Machulski weaves a fast-paced satire of women's lib and machismo. The final-twist ending is the icing on this rich layer cake of a film. The only moments that don't work are when the actors try for some slapstick sight gags, but otherwise this is an entirely pleasurable sexmission.



Ann-Margret will appear at a tribute at the Palace of Fine Arts, Thurs. April 18 at 8 p.m., as part of the San Francisco International Film Festival. Her Emmy-winning performance in A Streetcar Named Desire will be shown on the theater-sized screen.

## BOOK RACK

### Love in Paris

The Foreigner  
by David Plante  
Atheneum, \$12.95

by John D. Dolan

David Plante, who came out of the closet with the publication of his non-fiction book, *Difficult Women* (1983), has written an engaging ninth novel. It's about a 19-year-old American Catholic who, with limited funds, goes to Europe in 1959. His intention, after spending the summer travelling, is to study in Paris for a year. On the boat over, he meets a black American woman called Angela, and by doing her friend a favor, he gains entree into an unusual living arrangement in Paris. After a certain time in that city and again, willing to be of service—this time to his Spanish landlady—he travels to Spain with Angela. They share her apartment. Eventually he meets Angela's American lover who's been an exile in Spain for 25 years. He stays with them for about three weeks, and then leaves to deliver a letter given to him by his landlady in Paris. That's it.

Except that with David Plante a skimpy plot (and my

summary makes it even skimpier because I don't believe in giving plots away) never equates with a "thin" book. Told through the first person singular, the narrator, the book's value and pleasures depend entirely on the "I's" sensibilities. To say that the narrator has a "Gay sensibility" is reductive shorthand, and may not fairly or clearly describe his power of observation about himself and others and what's going on around him. Nor does such a label do Plante's narrator's temperament and sexuality full justice.

Plante's writing strategies are both serious and witty. In many ways his narrator moves from a kind of willful and self-conscious innocence into growing commitments. For instance, this: "On the strength of the principle of one's duty, not to oneself, but to the society in which one lives, and is dependent upon, I should have become political, but I did not... I told myself I was an individual above all. I would only do what I wanted to do. From this point of view of the person I should have become, but didn't, I know I was a decadent, a kind of criminal." That earnest statement appears

near the end of Part One. In Part Two, which takes place in Spain under Franco, the narrator's personal involvements intensify, because after awhile he realizes he's "in love" with Vincent.

Plante's style of writing (snottily described in one review as "macadam prose out of Hemingway") perfectly reflects his narrator's need to balance erotic tensions—and not just his—with moral ones, which means, in effect, that neither the narrator (nor Plante) moralize. We see a lot. We can infer a lot, but there are no overt messages.

One final note. Plante works out his narrator's concerns with his interior life through outer actions, and unless readers pay close attention to the subtleties, they may find this book a bloody bore. I didn't. I think it's a memorable novel because Plante, aside from the vividness of his narrator, has created two other major fictional characters. At times readers may want to wring the narrator's neck (Do something! Or, Why are you doing that?) but, remembering that he's 19 years old, readers may also (as I did) come to like that narrator for his persistent struggle to be himself.



# BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

## Getting Away

### A 'Dude' Ranch for Gay Men and Women

by Paul Trefzger

In the wilderness of Montana, two Gay women have a ranch/resort called North Crow Vacation Ranch. Their goal, I found, is to feed, entertain, and just generally create an environment in which their Gay brothers and sisters can relax and have a good time while getting in touch with nature.

"It's forty acres," said part owner Carolyn Beecher. "There's a stream running through. It's part meadow, part forest. It's very private. You can sunbathe in the nude.

"Nature is the star," Beecher continued. "We have expansive views across the valley to the sunset. The sun and moon rise over the mountains, which are close and to the East. We're in the foothills of the Mission Mountains. Outdoor recreation is the attraction. We have horse-shoes, volleyball, basketball, hiking. Within two miles you are into pristine wilderness. There's a head trail where a forty-five minute walk will take you to a waterfall in the North Crow Canyon.

"There's an outdoor hot tub which lends itself to the casual atmosphere. I think people get the feeling of being able to relax in their minds, open up their senses, and get back to nature. Our food is what really makes the place classy.

"There is one meal for everyone, but the food is excellent. You'll never go away hungry. We'll have fresh baked bread and garden vegetables. Trout Almondine and Beef Stroganoff are our specialties. At breakfast there's always meat, farm-fresh eggs, pancakes, and fruit salad. Of course, for people who want to cook on their own, there are complete cooking facilities at the campground, but we are very proud of our food." I ventured that this did not sound like your typical vacation. "We consider it the healthful alternative vacation. If someone is interested in the bars nearby, we feel, 'Well, you may as well stay in the city then.'"

Beecher and her partner Tary Mocabee are not down on liquor, however. "We don't have a liquor license. People are on their own to bring that." Neither are they prudes. "We don't want anyone getting too rowdy... like any place." Of her background, "I'm college educated and I could have worked in the city, but I resisted the confines of walls. I was interested in creating a work opportunity for myself that would include the outdoors and would offer recreational alternatives to Gay people. I took the risk and sacrificed money for the variety of work, where I am using both my body and my mind."

Beecher studied Psychology and German Literature at Stanford after coming to the Bay Area from Boston. "After college I did some grant writing and worked for a community clinic in Seattle. I also worked in some bakeries. I was working at a bakery in Helena, Montana when I met Tary. We actually met at a volleyball court, a picnic-type gathering over a 4th of July weekend. She said she fell in love with me when I spiked a volleyball over the net. She'd been raised on the ranch since age five. By the time she

was nineteen, both of her parents had died. She managed the ranch as a landlady. After college, she moved to San Francisco. Then she lost her job here and when she realized she was needed back at the ranch she decided to return. She and I had both been to the Russian River

(Continued from previous page)



The hills are alive with the sound of music at North Crow Vacation Ranch



## SILHOUETTES ON THE BAY

A Dance Party for Women and Their Friends

Saturday Night

April 13, 1985

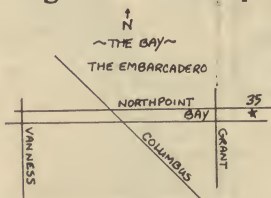
9 PM to 2 AM

— PIER 35 —

View the Bay from Pier 35's spectacular outdoor walkways and dance all night with DJ Cyndy.

A Night You'll Always Remember...

NO HOST BAR  
TICKETS:  
\$12.00 ADVANCE  
\$15.00 AT DOOR



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
ARTEMIS CAFE, San Francisco  
AMELIA'S, San Francisco  
MAUD'S, San Francisco  
MAMA BEARS, Oakland  
6536 Telegraph Avenue

All Proceeds Go To GAY GAMES II  
For More Information Call Sara Lewinstein, 285-0641  
(This is not a boat cruise.)



(Continued from previous page)

and witnessed the 'Gay boomtown.' She realized the potential in Montana as more of a retreat than a resort. The River was too much like the City with discos, the cruise scene, etc. She decided to do it. When her father was alive, they'd walk around the property and he'd say, 'This'd make a great dude ranch.' He had no idea of the twist that'd take. Tary decided to do it on a low capital basis rather than to build a lodge and then become overextended. She put up three teepees, which we call 'Tipis' and installed a hot tub. Now we have the largest one, a 'lodge Tipi,' available. You can fit fifteen, bunkhouse style, and there are the smaller ones for two or four, and possibly five or six. It's excellent for couples. There is a 'base camp' for horseback riding and backpack trips.

"I became Tary's partner by accident. A year after she'd started, Tary was preparing for a large group, through a travel agency, from New York City. I was visiting prior to their arrival. She and I were three days in the mountains and when we came back her cook had quit. I'd had experience with large groups and offered to help.

"We've been working together ever since, though we're no longer lovers. What's happening now is that I'm taking on a larger role as far as business relations and Tary works primarily on upkeep of the proper-



Relaxing in the hot tub at North Crow Vacation Ranch

ty. I cook. Tary takes care of the hot tub. We both entertain guests. Sometimes we call it the North Crow Vacation Ranch and Social Services. People here on vacation come to us with problems, such as confronting the darkness at night. Slowing down from the pace of city life, out there you find that personal needs come to the fore. Often people keep the pace of their lives going so quickly that they don't face certain feelings that come out when they do slow down. Some people come looking for friendship . . . and find it.

I asked how far away they were. Beecher said, "It's about 950 miles from San Francisco. Salt Lake City is the nearest big city. You might fly from there to Missoula. From there it'd be no problem getting out to the ranch. We're in the Northwest corner of the state and ten miles from Flathead Lake, which is the largest freshwater lake west of the Mississippi. It affords a lot of recreational activity such as windsurfing, boat rides around (part of) the lake, white-water or float rafting on the river that leads out of the lake. Local Gays use us as a clearinghouse

or referral center for what's going on in the area."

"What about men?" I asked. Carolyn said, "An interesting thing happens. July tends to be more men . . . particularly the last weekend. It's a Canadian holiday and a lot of men come down from Calgary. We have a mixer on the 4th of July weekend we call our 'Barbequeer.' August, there tends to be more women and the first weekend of August this year is the Celebration of the Goddess, a women's spiritual adventure. Another thing, a lot of vacations are similar. There's TV . . . you're

safe and enclosed within four walls. There's no impetus to get to know others. The art of conversation is lost. People find that at our place they get to know each other. There are daily rituals . . . around the campfire, the hot tub, or sharing a Tipi. Two people can get to know each other or use it as an intimate getaway. You can almost always get a Tipi for two for privacy. It's a place couples like to come back to."

I can just picture Mel Gibson and I walking from the waterfall to our Tipi.

P. Trefzger

## GAY TENNIS FEDERATION

LES BALMAIN

### Third Annual Doubles Tournament

Even though the month of March had been howling like a lion with blowing rain storms and cold windy days, once again the Weather Gods relented and smiled upon the members of the Gay Tennis Federation by beaming down a wonderful warm and sunny Sunday for its Third Annual Doubles Tournament. What a perfect day for tennis! Forty-eight members participated in the tournament, held at the Alameda Junior College tennis courts March 31. The draw was composed of three divisions, A, B, and C, with eight teams in each division. A round robin of seven matches was played in each division. Each match consisted of a total of eight games, with no-ad scoring. The winning doubles team in each division was decided by the total games won.

Congratulations go to the following champions and runners up:

Class A	Games won
1. Jaime Espada & Gregg McCarty	39
2. Cesar Casado & Tony Mills	36
Class B	
1. Grant Trent & Lupe Vasquez	34
2. Paul Gill & Fernando Reyes	31
Class C	
1. Mike Teeple & Don Trisdale	36
2. Jim Anderson & Brent Weaver	33

This is the second year for using the round-robin format for the doubles tournament, which has proven to be very popular. Besides being a test of tennis skill, it also provides lots of tennis play for members, along with emphasizing their physical fitness.

Tennis players interested in the Gay Tennis Federation may attend the next meeting, scheduled for 8 p.m. Monday, April 15, at Ivy's at Hayes and Gough Streets. Or you may contact Bill Reynolds, Secretary, at 563-3084.

## G.S.I. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

### Another Glorious Opening Day

Fourteen other Gay Softball League teams swung into action last Sunday after Festus and Rawhide played in the league opener two weeks ago.

Balboa Park was the site of this week's game, and surprisingly, the weather cooperated nicely. Trax took on the new-look Rookies, and had a difficult time posting a hard-fought win. Entering the sixth inning, the pesky Rookies led 3-1. Sensing an upset, the Maniax came back to win 7-4.

Cafe Sn. Marcos improved on both as it got past the Phone Booth, 7-4. Veteran Bob Smith led an all-around team effort to give Hector Romo reason to smile.

In the game of the day, John Larisa's Producers posted a 5-4 victory over the Pilsner Inn. This game seemed certain to show the strength of the league this year, and it did. Looks like a very competitive year.

The Vagabond walloped Gingers 22-4 as Dan Carlson's

'Balboa Park was the site of this week's game, and surprisingly, the weather cooperated nicely.'

The sky-high Chaps team was brought down to earth when the Village Islanders thumped them 17-4. Paced by Joe Luzinski's hitting and Bob DeTulio's six-hit pitching, the Village scored early and often to win going away.

Amelia's made its debut in the league by playing Hamburger Mary's fairly even for the first few innings, but lost 7-2. Mary's talented pitcher Leo led the way as the team proved it will be no pushover this year.

New uniforms sometimes help a team's image, and the

charges got off to a great start, and the Pendulum Pirates continued its winning habit with an 8-4 win over the Kokpit.

Next week all games are at Jackson Field, 17th Street and Arkansas.

Schedule for Sunday, April 14: 10 a.m.: Festus vs. Producers and Pilsner Inn vs. Cafe Sn. Marcos. 11:45 a.m.: Rawhide vs. Vagabond and Gingers vs. Kokpit. 1:30 p.m.: Pendulum vs. Amelias and Hamburger Mary's vs. Chaps. 3:15 p.m.: Village vs. Rookies and Trax vs. Phone Booth. ■

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# Hugging Doesn't Cause AIDS

You don't get AIDS by caring about someone with AIDS. AIDS is transmitted through certain types of intimate sexual contact, by sharing of I.V. needles, and by receiving infected blood or blood products. It is not caused by a hug, holding hands, having a good talk, fixing dinner, or going for a drive.

So if you know someone with AIDS, don't be afraid to show you care.

The Shanti Project provides volunteer emotional and practical support to people with AIDS and their loved ones. Volunteers needed. Call today for more information.



**Shanti Project**  
Affection not Rejection  
558-9644



GENE MILLER

## Kelvin Roberts Wins Six-Shooter

Congratulations to Kelvin Roberts, team captain of the Park Bowl Roadrunners, for his victory at our first Six-Shooter, held last Saturday at Festus and the Pendulum. He won \$60 plus a trophy, and for the other half of the \$120 pot he drew Tim Chitwood's name out of the hat. It was a real chance for lady luck to do her thing—since Six-Ball is an even shorter version of Nine-Ball, which is a shortened version of rotation—and all matches were single-game on a double-elimination board. Only 14 showed up, but we had so much fun we played a second tournament as soon as Kelvin and Tim picked up their cash. Thanks to Festus and the Pendulum for their \$25 donations to the prize fund.

Now, over the next few days, I'll see a few members and ask them why they weren't there, and a frequent reply will be, "Oh, I didn't even know about it."

Every season several league members realize too late they were qualified for a tournament. We ask them why they weren't there, or at the party, or some other event, and so often they were unaware. Getting the word out isn't like in the bowling leagues, where one grabs the mike and informs the entire membership, en masse—our 155 members are spread out all over the city in groups of ten or twelve every Tuesday evening. Even with an enviable number of information sources—the weekly mailing, this column, our recorded tape (J-O-E P-O-O-L), and the handbook—to disseminate news and information, many members still somehow never get the word.

The event that suffers most from lack of participation is the Most Valuable Player tourna-

ment, and there's a reason: Many teams simply don't know who to send. There are usually at least two good players on a team with approximately equal records, and rather than hurt feelings by choosing, the tournament is just ignored. *Don't do that!* These tournaments are a lot of fun, there's cash to be won, and they're open only to league members. Our plan on Festus Farmhands—decided before the season began—is to have a play-off session between the two top-average players. But you could also send your top game-winner, or make it a free-for-all and have a team round-robin. But please, team captains, meet with your teams and decide in advance how you'll work it. Don't wait until June and then let the captain worry about whose feelings will be hurt.

### SCOPING THE PROS

Often you'll see one of the league's finer players, such as Ray Peterson, Dave Timko, or E.Z., methodically run a table, and you'll think, "He should turn pro." Are the pros actually that much better? Well, here's a glance at a few statistics from a recent tournament held at Red's pool hall in Houston, Texas: Jim Mataya tried 14 kick shots—made them all; Terry Bell made a ball on the break 19 of 24 times without scratching; Jimmy Reid had ball-in-hand 16 times—ran out every time; Willie Munson had 31 break shots without scratching.

But none of those was the winner. Caesar Morales won. He ran out from the break 20 of 61 times. Sinking 492 balls, he missed only 28 times, and missed position only 15 times. For his efforts: \$10,500. (Statistics courtesy of Accu-Stats). ■

## Portland Gay Men's Chorus Entertains

Oregon etched another chapter in its Gay rights history when members of the Portland Gay Men's Chorus opened sessions of the Oregon Senate and House of Representatives March 22.

The presentation by the chorus culminated a week that also saw the introduction of S.B. 896, which would provide protections from discrimination in state employment based on sexual orientation.

Right to Privacy Chair, Keeston Lowery said, "We've entered every session since 1973 with cautious optimism. Oregon has a strong history of support

for legal protections for Gays and Lesbians. We've had three floor votes since 1973, and narrowly lost in each case. We're positioned this year for another close vote, and I think the outcome really depends on constituent pressure from several rural areas of the state."

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus appearance was its second in the state capitol. The group performed in the rotunda during Dec. 1984, and at a swearing-in ceremony for recently elected Democratic Secretary of State Barbara Roberts. ■

## Join the Band

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Marching Band took first place, as did the Flag Corps in its category, in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in San Francisco. Despite nasty heckling from a few rather drunk onlookers, the Marching Band remained dignified and more determined than ever because it took first honors in six of the last eight parades it has entered. The Band sounded and looked impressive, as did the Flag Corps.

Both groups are now involved in an intensive membership drive, in addition to the Baton Twirlers and the Aides de Camp. Men and women of all ages and levels of experience have a welcome space open to them in the Band Foundation. The band meets on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Grace

Cathedral. For more information call the band office at 621-5619.

The Flag Corps meets on Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Pacific Ballet Center at 1519 Mission (near South Van Ness). Call Ted Knipe at (415) 826-7911 for more information.

There are lots of activities coming up, especially as we enter the "Gay Pride Season," including basketball games in L.A., parades and parties, and even fun rehearsal weekends at the Russian River. It's a great time for new friends and old, and a great coming together for the Lesbian and Gay community. So welcome the band representatives as they visit the bowling alleys, bars, clubs, and Hibernia Beach looking for you. ■



Shaft's Rogues: (l. to r.) Bill Boyles, Lee Larson, Chris Flanagan, Tim Chitwood, Jim Fierro (Photo: G. Miller)

## SFPA Scoreboard

Division I		Marcello's Mixed Shooters		S.F. Eagle	
Stallion International	67-29 .697		27-69 .281	Bear Claws	46-50 .479
Festus Farmhands	61-35 .635			Shaft Rascals	37-59 .385
Park Bowl		Division III		TOP TEN	
Roadrunners	59-37 .614	DeLuxe D.U.C.K.S.	64-32 .666	1 Dave Timko	13-0 1.000
Pendulum Pirates	55-41 .572	Eagle Creek Chaos	63-49 .562	2 E. Z.	20-4 .833
Pilsner Ltd	49-47 .510	Pilsner Doughboys	51-45 .531	3 Ray Peterson	14-3 .823
Marcello's		Shaft Rogues	50-46 .520	4 Charles Dossett	19-5 .791
Strayshooters	36-76 .321	Maud's	44-52 .458	Walter Moreira	19-5 .791
Chaps Chaparrals	29-67 .302	Detour Dirtroads	40-56 .416	6 Marquita Booth	14-4 .777
		Park Bowl Phantoms	29-67 .302	7 Lisa Duncan	18-6 .750
Division II		Division IV		8 Gene Hopkins	13-5 .722
Bear Bottoms	58-38 .604	DeLuxe Spare Tires	68-44 .607	Rick Moore	13-5 .722
Festus	56-40 .583	Chaps Outlaws	54-42 .562	10 Ron Barulich	14-6 .700
B.A. Stallions	60-52 .535	Transfer Attain.		Gene Miller	14-6 .700
Transfer Points	50-46 .520	Treasures	54-42 .562	Jim Shields	14-6 .700
Chaps Sticks	42-54 .437	Maud's Squad	48-48 .500		
Alamo Square	39-57 .406				

**ENDUP**  
**JOCKSTRAP CONTEST**  
**SUN. APRIL 14, 9 P.M.**  
**M.C. RANDY JOHNSON**  
 (with Diamond John)  
**6TH & HARRISON**  
**\$300. IN PRIZES**





## Silver Lining

**Gay and Gray: The Older Homosexual Male**  
by Raymond M. Berger  
Allyson Publications, \$4.95

by M. Shaw

The unfortunately popular stereotype of the aging Gay man as isolated, scorned, and pathetic, prompted Raymond Berger and his associates to conduct this study. Their findings brought them to this surprisingly opposite conclusion: "The older male homosexual who is most likely to be psychologically well adjusted will be highly integrated into the homosexual community, unwilling to change his homosexuality, less concerned about concealment, perceiving his health as good or excellent, having a current exclusive relationship with another man, and reporting a high level of satisfaction with his sex life."

The Berger group set about in the late '70s to discover the important realities of a neglected group. Gerontology studied the heterosexual older person; studies of homosexuals tended to be almost exclusively on the visi-

ble, sometimes militant young. Middle aged to elderly Gays were not included in either group. But given two factors—the increase in the aged population and the Kinsey proportion of Gays in the population at approximately 10 per cent—it was obvious a significant number of Gays were being overlooked.

The research plan was developed in two stages, intense interviews with willing older Gay men, and a questionnaire completed by 112 Gay men over 40. The result is a decently balanced book of responses to 62 questions on matters affected by a Gay life, and ten accounts by living, breathing guys testifying at length on what being Gay has meant to them—and means now that they are older.

The printed questions and oral interview inquiries cover feelings of self-worth, social situations, health, relations with straights, sex life, and other important considerations. The ages range up into the late 70s, and the backgrounds and life ex-

periences are quite diverse.

However, there are problem areas. One of the most troublesome is relations between older and younger Gays. While some of the respondents indicated they had positive relations with younger Gay males, the greater number felt younger guys scorned them. Berger speculates that this feeling might very well be the start of a vicious cycle, in which supposed negative attitudes are reinforced by avoidance and are thereby perpetuated.

Early on, Berger says Lesbians are not included because efforts to recruit them in significant numbers proved futile. Suspicion of the strength of the effort arises, however, because he devotes considerable space to the New York organization, Senior Action in a Gay Environment, which has numerous Lesbian members.

Given its limitations, is the book still valuable? Probably so. That value lies in its "break-through" nature, the establishment of interest in a previously ignored group, and maybe most important of all, inspiration imparted to the age group it represents. ■

## The Academics Dig

**Bisexual and Homosexual Identities: Critical Theoretical Issues**  
John P. De Cecco and Michael Shively (Eds.)  
Haworth, \$22.95

by Marv. Shaw

Time was when just raising the question of how we all got to be this way was branded so politically wrong the questioner had to turn in his Guild card and never darken the door of The Pendulum again. Undaunted, the Gay academics quietly but determinedly pursued such questions anyway. Now that cooler heads are prevailing, it turns out they were not only right then, but continue to ask the really tough questions, monitor each other's proposed answers, and so lay the fundamentals of understanding.

De Cecco is the editor and Shively the associate editor of the *Journal of Homosexuality*, a quarterly published for ten years. Each issue takes up a well-defined subject within a larger area and explores it thoroughly. The issues are now appearing in hard cover to form a growing permanent library of research into that most vital matter, our Gayness.

What in the hell do we mean when we call ourselves bisexual, homosexual — Gay? Familiarity with ourselves, our brothers and sisters, and our communal lifestyle made such terms facile. And even though that facility might be practical enough for daily life, the lack of precision makes understanding in the psychological, scientific, and philosophical senses difficult.

So in great part, this volume seeks definitions. The job is fairly wide-ranging, certainly penetrating, sometimes frustrating. De Cecco and Shively lead off with an essay which traces the contextual shift from individual identity — our biology, for example — to relationships. To a considerable degree, their proposal is a coherent synthesis. They demonstrate we are what we are because of the ways we relate. Thus, our identity is not static but active, capable of change and variation.

The book is built in sections called contexts: historical, bisexual, homosexual, and biological. In each, authorities examine the meanings of the terms which have been applied to define our identity, often resulting in their discard. The discrediting originates from many sources, but as we could all expect, it comes most often from ignorance and bias. For example, Jay Paul, in "The Bisexual Identity: An Idea without Social Recognition," shows that a psychological state has been dismissed because of the rigid dichotomy of the sexes that traditional social belief has imposed on us. Additionally, Paul projects an interesting argument for bisexuality as a spur for social change.

One of the most interesting contexts is the historical, in which Richard Hoffman examines the differences toward sexuality generally and male homosexuality particularly. The anthropological data alone make it rich reading indeed.

One of the most important aspects of this book is the presentation of perspectives from both the sociological and psychological camps. Thus, Henry Minton and Gary McDonald theorize that the homosexual identity is socially constructed, derived from collections of categories that individuals select and apply to themselves. On the other hand, Vivian Cass sees identity as created by two processes, the presentation of the self to the self and to others.

There is much criticism here. The authorities subject historical figures like Freud and contemporary theorists like Bieber to close scrutiny and frequently, rebuttal. Sometimes, in essays such as Cass' "Homosexual Identity: A Conception in Need of a Definition," there is an appearance of semantic juggling, but when one realizes the attempt is to arrive at our essence, objections disappear.

Probably the strongest criticism is brought to bear on the theorists who posit the biological context as the most reliable for understanding the states of human sexuality. The sociobiologists get it especially heavily. Thomas Hoult, Douglas Futuyma, and Stephen Risch dispense with the genetic theorists by showing that the evidence is so meager the theories couldn't have validity.

This book simply repays patient study. ■

W A N T E D  
1000 GAY MEN WHO CARE ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR COMMUNITY

# STOP AIDS PROJECT

A COMMUNITY EXPERIMENT IN COMMUNICATION

The terrible truth about AIDS is no longer something any of us can afford to ignore. But we can do something about it. The STOP AIDS PROJECT, in partnership with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, invites you to participate in a series of discussions that is unprecedented in the history of our community. Its goal is to bring together 1,000 gay men from all walks of life to discuss the urgent questions we all face:

- How can we stop spreading the AIDS virus around in our community while we're waiting for a medical solution?
- How can we best adjust to the incredible changes that are taking place in gay values, sexual attitudes and lifestyles?

- How can we best find and promote the positive aspects of this epidemic, while dealing with the tragedy of AIDS?
- What can we do, individually and together, to stay sane and healthy while meeting this incredible challenge?

**THE STOP AIDS PROJECT  
IS NOT CONCERNED  
WITH RIGHT SEX OR  
WRONG SEX.  
IT'S CONCERNED WITH  
SUPPORT AND SURVIVAL.**

- Find out from other gay men how they are coping with the AIDS epidemic.
- Say what you need to say about AIDS prevention.
- Learn from one another.
- Contribute by helping the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and our community face the greatest challenge we have ever encountered.

**THE ONLY PRICE FOR  
ADMISSION IS CONCERN.**

- Beginning February 15 and continuing through May 15, 1985, a total of 1,000 gay and bisexual men will meet in small groups of 10-12.
- The Stop AIDS Project groups will be held in the homes of volunteer hosts throughout the City, and will take up one evening of your time.
- Space is limited. Call now for a reservation—and tell your friends. This is an opportunity for you to contribute just by being there. And to help put an end to this monstrous disease.

**CALL TODAY.  
IT'S IMPORTANT. IT'S FREE.**

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Information • Reservations • Volunteer Hosts  
**WE CAN STOP AIDS.**



# BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR



**MR. MARCUS**

## Have You Hugged a Leatherman Lately?

I was another one of those Easter Sundays when the boys were cavorting around all over town with flamboyant hats, attending brunch parties and showing off their finery at the Lily Street Easter Party (a HUGE mob). The Warlocks M/C ended its one-day run on the patio of the SF-Eagle with an array of head gear predominant throughout the afternoon beer bust. All around the town, everyone was in a festive mood and the weather couldn't have been better. On Saturday, a hearty band of bikers convened at the Watering Hole at the un-Godly hour of 10 a.m. for the Constantines M/C one-day run to San Pablo Bay. Road Captain Dan Jeansson, with his gold-trimmed Yamaha, led one group, with the Emperor de Motorcycling Gary Kenyon in charge of the others. They ended up at the Eagle afterward with satisfied smiles and a renewed radiance of a shared experience that is always predominant after a tryst with men who are into the same things; a hot group of men on even hotter metal machines made for a satisfying scene to everyone who witnessed it. Getting into the swing of things, the Cheaters M/C has planned a one-day in-town run on Sunday, April 21 for bikers, buddies, and people checking in at 1300 hrs. at Chaps Bar with a \$6 tariff including cocktails at participating bars and food and prizes at the Wagons at the end of the run. But the run many dedicated bikers are looking forward to is the Constantines 500 on the weekend of April 27-28 to the vicinity of Fort Bragg. The 500-mile run is only \$20 and includes overnight at a "quaint bed and breakfast inn" with Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast. A handsome pin commemorates this first-annual event which welcomes independent bikers; if you haven't sent in your application, get one from one of THEM or call 621-3384; the deadline for this one is April 22 and hurry as spaces are go-



Sister Sadie crowds a Bunny Ride purveyor at the Lily Street party (Photo: Rink)

ing fast! This Sunday, April 14, is of course the CMC's 18th Annual Tax Break Run beginning at Noon in the Eagle patio; you'll be obliged to visit several sites where you will be given "tax deductions" and when you gather at the end for the beer bust at the Eagle, the person who has managed to get the most deductions wins the door prizes; this one is always a lot of fun, depending on who your accountant is. Participants this year are afforded extra "tax credits" by contributing canned goods or nonperishable foodstuffs to the AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Later on that same day, Mapeenzi, that hot musical group, will be doing its thing at El Rio. On Saturday, April 13, the Cal Eagles M/C is having a

one-day run to San Jose leaving from 3986-24th St. (at Noel) at 1000 hours with drink specials at the Renegade and the Boot Rack where they'll be joined by the Palo Alto Force 5 M/C with dinner at David's on Main Street. You can get more info by calling 285-5975 or 563-8378. I'm so glad to learn members of Force 5 are at last engaging in bike activities after supplying so many members "sacrificial lambs" to the lustful and voracious appetite(s) of certain GDI members!

If you're not into biker events, tonight (April 11), you can see the video of MEN BEHIND BARS II at the DeLuxe Bar beginning at 9 p.m. with a

(Continued on next page)

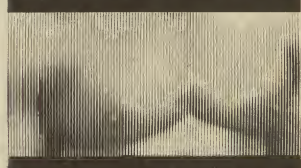


The Constantines ride off to San Pablo Bay (Photo: Marcus)



PRESENTS THE

## BARE CHEST



## CONTEST

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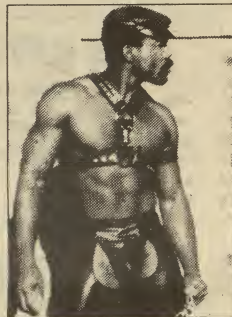
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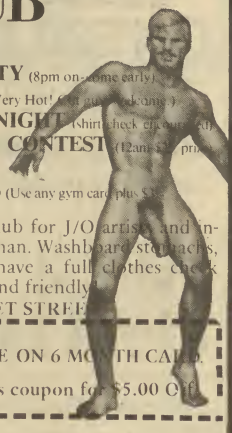
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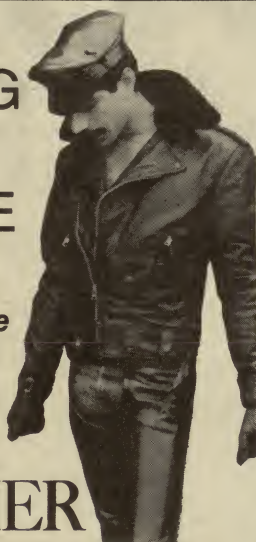
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Elastic Romance — Practicing safe sex South of Market style (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

\$2 donation for the benefit of the Shanti Project and the SF Band Foundation, hosted by Jitterbug Duffy, everyone's favorite bartender from the South Bronx!

The MBB II showing at the Eagle last Thursday netted a tidy \$800 with the auction of Kate Smith's hat, an enlarged photo of Kate donated by SF's premier photographer Robert Pruzan-a-dana, and door charges. Down in San Jose last Sunday at that cutie Jon Snell's Desperadoes Bar, he treated his customers to the video of MBB II and donated \$200 toward the cause. This is the only show of its type to continue raising money even after the initial performances, and I'm sure the Shanti Project and the SF Band Foundation are grateful to Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson and all the cast for their efforts. Incidentally, Matthew Brown, Phoebe Planters, Tatiana, and Empress Ginger are NOT amused that somebody sent an unknown personage to the Eagle last Thursday to buy the "hat" and I learned yesterday he was an agent for one of the other bike clubs!

Onward! Patrick (Perle Mesta) Toner of CHAPS unleashes his Leader of the Pack bike club party this Friday night beginning at 2100 hours. Members of the GDI and Cheaters will be performing with John Kass doing his thing and Ms. Sprocket Face Peckerhead MC'ing the salute to SF Bike Clubs—it should be a fun event—nobody throws parties like Ms. Perle! If you're planning ahead, you get a second chance at that cute Gary Garrison along with the Gay Men's Chorus on Sunday April 21 in the Eagle patio; it's a beer bust from 1500 to 1800 with food and all the beer you can drink. There'll be an auction as well, but Gary Garrison is not for sale—he's free. Hope to see all of you there. By the way, if you're planning to go to the Closet Ball in style, you better hurry and rent your limousine. I understand one of the contestants has a dozen tables and a dozen limousines for all his guests —are you reading this J.C.? Oh yeah, the Gay Men's Chorus Beer Bust is only \$6.

★ ★ ★

In another area, the Knights Templar S&M Club is just about putting on the finishing touches to its new club house located South of Market; with furniture donations and esoteric apparati installed and ALL up

to CODE, the place is doubtlessly the envy of every S&M club in California. The club will participate in the 1st International S&M Run to Seattle the weekend of May 10-12 where they'll join with the Seattle Dungeon Guild and the Vancouver Activists in S&M for the very FIRST of its type. The cost is \$75 and includes meals, beverages, dungeon, and barracks-style sleeping accommodations. The run is by invitation only OR you must be sponsored by a member of one of the three clubs mentioned. Contact Jim, Dungeon Master of the Knights Templar, at 863-0476 for more info, and if you ever get the chance to attend a party at the new club house, the experience will be an eye-opener if that's your "thing."

### THE CRASS MENAGERIE

Hey, did you know they have a "dress code" at the Phoenix Bar on Castro? I didn't either until I met this hot leather man at the Brig the other night who said that on Friday, March 29 at approximately 10:30 p.m. he was asked to leave the Phoenix because QUOTE: "You're not dressed right for this bar," by a prissy bartender who obviously was himself not dressed right. The man in question, a visitor no less from New York City, was attired in full leather that he designed himself, and except for a leather red, green, and yellow stripe across his left shoulder, left with no protest, but was quite shocked. The New Yorker eventually found his way to Folsom Street, where he related his tale of woe to me. That's what I like about Castro bars, where seldom is heard a discouraging word—harrumph! . . . You'll be pleased to know that a comprehensive survey of the strengths and weaknesses of rubbers (condoms) will soon be published, advising you which are the "safest for safe sex." Last Friday, April 5, Jim Garner and Buzz Bense held this more or less "seminar and demonstration" session where various well-endowed dudes were testing Trojans, Ramses, and Man-Guard rubbers on each other to find their strengths and weaknesses in order to "better inform their Gay brothers" about using same. While I believe the testing took place, I can't WAIT to read the report—especially between the lines! Those testing the rubbers have NEVER been known as Princess Tiny Meats . . . J.C. Corbett, former manager of the Arena and the Eagle, is flexing his muscles in L.A. and staging a contest at his latest fiefdom, The Phoenix to send someone to Chicago for the Intl. Mr. Leather Contest with Suzy Parker (Our Lady of

the Rented Leather) MC'ing the four-week event. JC vows his contestant will win out over the SF-Eagle's contestant and here we have another *mano-a-mano* brewing . . . Informed sources advise that the Northern Calif. Mr. Drummer contest will NOT be held at the Woods this year due to bungling by a "management type" at Alternate Publishing, and the usual producer was asked to repeat but never contacted again. To bolster their sagging popularity, they're sending their LA-based producer to Chicago to "find out how it's done" . . . Greg's Blue Dot in L.A. is holding a contest on May 1 to send someone to Chicago to compete as well, so it looks like L.A. is finally becoming a leather town . . . SF's only real royalty, Count Reynaldo del Fino, cut short his ski vacation at Chamonix, France to rush back to SFO to check out what he thought was a new SF Sex Fetish—Jimmy Miller's "Below The Belt" prohibitions at the 1808 CLUB. After finding out what "Below the Belt" really means, sighed the Count: "As a result of my haste to get in on the ground floor of the action, I have started to collect rare and unusual belt buckles, but I do think they should put up bigger 'NO COCKSUCKING' signs at the 1808!"

★ ★ ★

That wraps it up for this week, boys and girls. Don't forget the Eagle's 4th Anniversary parties next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday when it will be Pin Night (Mon.), T-Shirt—by David Cockman (Tues.), and Champagne Buffet with Entertainment (Wed.). MC'd by Tom Anniano and featuring Val Diamond, the Hayward Raw-Rahs, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers. Our own Sylvester, fresh from a recording session with Jeanie Tracy where they backed up Aretha Franklin's latest album, will be there for the festivities too, so join all your friends for a great segment.

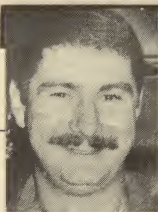
Belated birthday greetings to the Prince de Topaz and hi to Mr. Leather of SF Jake Banks who was in town last week to collect his uniforms and boots and to arrange for his ascendancy to the title of Mr. Drummer!

Until then, remember: Interest your piggy friends in bowling; get them off the streets and into the alleys! ■

Mister Marcus

**B.A.R.**





## FRIESE FRAME

### Story of My Life

MARK FRIESE

**E**aster's over, and once again I put another unused egg coloring kit away. The kits and the eggs seem to always find themselves on the back burner as I am caught up in the midst of all the activities that are planned, or the unplanned, such as refreshment tours in the Castro.

I have no guilt whatsoever about the eggs because my time was well spent. I chose the Trocadero White party as my avenue of holiday escape. The party this year was one of the best—music, lights, decorations, entertainment, and of course the debut of the latest centerpiece above the dance floor, was all in top form. The crowd was friendly and ready for a good time, which is exactly what it got. Congratulations and thanks!

Once again the Lily Street fair had a good turnout, and if you haven't been to one of these, then by all means make a point of it next year! This party is all about friends in the neighborhood who invite their friends, and in the astonishing period of one afternoon have a wonderful time making new friends, seeing old friends, and finding out that there still is such a thing as camaraderie around today.

Sunday was also Empress Reba's birthday, and Monday evening a festive celebration was held in his honor at Ginger's hosted by reincarnated Maggie Jiggs. Reba told me just recently that he was 21 when he became Empress—get your calculators out for this one!

Buckley's, on Gough, has a full line-up of entertainment for your enjoyment, plus lunch, brunch, and dinner served as well. Tonight the club will feature Jae Ross, Friday evening is Joseph Taro & Co., and on Saturday Weslia Whitfield performs. Showtimes are 9 p.m. and on Saturday 9:30 p.m. Also, the 19th of this month will be the opening night of John Karr's "Kernels of the Century." Reservations and info. at 552-8177.

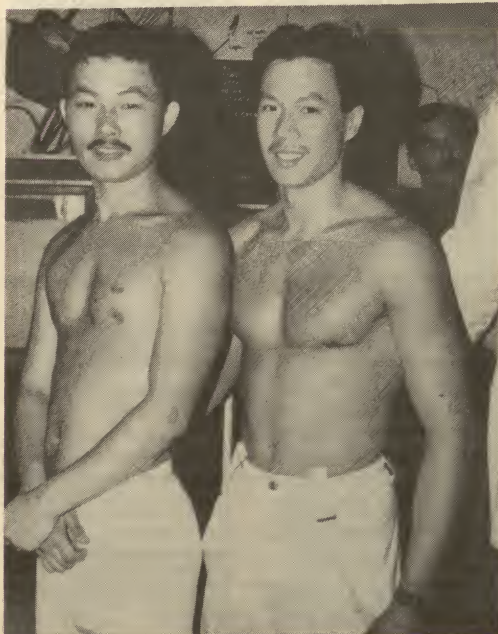
The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presents "A Jubilant Song!" with only three perfor-

mances. The first is this Friday at 8 p.m. at St. Francis Lutheran Church at 152 Church St. Saturday night the group will perform at 8 p.m. in Berkeley at Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St. The final performance will be in S.F. at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., at 5 p.m. Tix are available at Headlines and all Ticketron outlets. More info at 883-0342.

Bartenders Against AIDS will host a training session at 2 p.m. today at the Casa de Cristal, 1121 Polk St. The next one is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Monday at Vally's Fireside, 525 Castro. Chaps will have one on the 18th and there will be one at the Hob Nob on Geary on the 19th. Both of these will begin at 2 p.m. These sessions last approximately two hours and are designed to give bar and restaurant personnel a better understanding of the AIDS crisis, thereby making it possible to answer many of the questions they might be asked on the job. For more information, or to sign up, call Les Pappas at 864-4376.

Correction! Michael Khoury is a partner in Souvenirs in Puerto Rico. Now on to the answers to last week's questions: Due to popular demand it has been decided to limit the saga of Mark "Bubbles" Abramson to one performance a year. Verna Mae's battery supply was well stocked, and "MY,MY,MY" is winking once again. I think the Foghorn did indeed receive their insurance check. Trixi informs me that his last name has been spelled a lot worse and besides that, he's been called a lot worse. Ron Huberman's friend has not returned, much to my dismay, but Ron tells me there were quite a few of his friends making inquiries, which is always a good sign!

Tickets are now on sale for the CRIR/Sutter's Mill-sponsored Mr. Financial District contest, which will be Saturday, April 20 at 8 p.m. at Sutter's Mill. Tix are \$10 and the net proceeds will go to the S.F. AIDS Fund. Contestant applications are now available at the Mill, and more info for this event is yours by contacting Duke Armstrong at 543-0910.



## SWEET LIPS SEZ ...

### Wild Blue Yonder

DICK WALTERS

**W**ell, here we are in Portland for the 13th anniversary of the Embers/Avenue, and what a week it has been. The train trip up was just fabulous, with gorgeous scenery. If you aren't in a hurry, it is the only way to go.

Our gracious host, Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue, met Durwood and yours truly at the train depot and whisked us off to the bar for cocktails and to dish with Jeannie Hill and Tony Mendoza, a.k.a. Consuelo Pigg ... What a blast.

Friday morning, over more cocktails, the door opened and who arrives but Dolly Duke of the Polk Gulch Saloon and Jay Noonan of Kimo's. The biggest surprise of all was Jack South of the Special and Hunks—we never expected him to come up here ... So we all proceeded to make a great weekend out of it. Have you figured it out yet, Mark Friese?

Sunday night was the Dorky Dora Awards with the Pitty Pitts Awards. Mame, Darcelle IV, and yours truly gave awards. My two escorts, Dolly and Durwood, were just perfect in bib overalls and bow ties. Yes, the mustache went, and I appeared as the Czarina Sweet Lips after 2½ hours—I hope it was the last time. Thank you Darcelle and Roxy for all your help in creating this masterpiece.

Incidentally, Darcelle XV does a fantastic show that shouldn't be missed when you come up here. They have a great cast and it is done very, very



Sweet Lips as Sally Stanford

professionally.

Thank you Steve Suss and your staff for such great hospitality and service. I am not sure if Dolly Duke ever did get surprised, but he sure tried.

Mame says to be sure to say hello to one and all, and that she is very happy. After seeing the pictures Dennis has of the London trip, I can see why. And again, thanks for the manicure, Dennis.

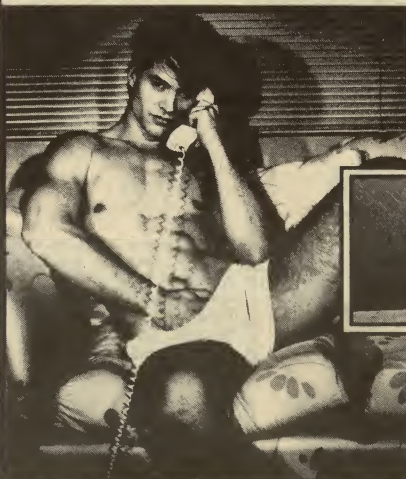
There are quite a few interesting bars here in Portland. One of the popular ones is C.C. Slaughters, with fabulous decor

and some very interesting people. Saw quite a few San Franciscans who have moved up here—including the lovable "Lucy," who took extra nights off at the Embers/Avenue just to play with us.

Most of the gang is flying back Monday afternoon, but Durwood and I arrive by train Wednesday morning. We can't wait to hit Googies, Hunks, and the Special to get all the dirt we have missed.

Looking forward to coming home to rest up for this Fall's vacation in Portland.

# CHEAP & EASY



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## Fifth Position

(Continued from page 28)

Other MDT dancers, all above-average physical specimens, had the varying abilities one always finds in regional companies. They looked much more comfortable in Houlton's three duets called 293.6. Choreographed in the slow, detached, inwardly-directed modern ballet style of 1970, this piece demanded a less brittle technique and virtually no dramatic emphasis. They looked most comfortable in Sketches on Chopin by Dancers' Stages'

Maor, to piano pieces played beautifully by David Stein. Maor created his ballet from his point of view as a teacher, strategizing his combinations and capitalizing on individual charm wherever possible.

Stars will always attract a crowd, and I think Dancers' Stage was sold out every night of its run. Yet, in view of the paucity of its in-house performers, questions arise as to what sort of company Dancers' Stage itself might ever become. All we know after one performance is something about the organization's dance-world connections.

K. White

# LATS



## Gym Daddies

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## Factwino

(Continued from page 25)

**Factwino: The Opera** needs no detailed psychological character studies. But how about some more facts? Why not include a really dazzling debate between Factwino and his enemies? Too much talk might bore an outdoor audience. Indoors, Factwino could really strut his stuff. The few sentences with which he sends the forces of evil scurrying are cute, but they could never make a dent in

really hardcore, committed ignorance.

Directed by Sharon Lockwood and Dan Chumley, the performance brims with energy and enthusiasm. Shabaka makes a loveably modest Factwino. When he raises his arms to fly off to save the day with facts, everyone squeals with delight. As usual, Wilma Bonet bubbles with charm. Her portrayal of Armageddonman's robot illustrates her flair for physical comedy. As a Christian fundamentalist, Bonet proves her ability to telegraph charac-

terization instantly.

**Factwino: The Opera** is charming, but it preaches to the converted. Nothing wrong with that. The converted love to have their convictions reinforced occasionally. But just like hot dogs and hamburgers served at an elegant restaurant, this show is unequal to its pretensions. It leaves you hungry for something more.

B. Spunberg

**Factwino: The Opera**  
Victoria Theater  
Through May 12; 285-1717

## Babylon

(Continued from page 27)

tired of supplying "little snippets," and here declared his interest in more elaborate forms of composition—extended choruses, elaborately worked-out ensembles, and chains of song. Which is not to say the "little snippets" aren't here as well.

Comedy, too. The basic situation plots zaniness within zaniness, but takes time out for side trips. The police get a hilarious working over with a scene that was obviously known by Gilbert and Sullivan when they began work on *Pirates of Penzance*.

In Offenbach, the heavy-booted entrance of the cops is a sly jest, by alternating choruses indicating that when graft and duplicity aren't motivating policemen's work, stupidity takes over.

**The Bridge of Sighs** can be seen again when Pocket Opera's *Offenbachanalia* returns for its summer season at the Herbst Theatre, playing four Offenbach shows in rotation.

Meanwhile, April 14 and May 5, Pippin presents a close and not so rambunctious cousin, Auber's *Fra Diavolo*, last heard at the Opera House 15 years ago with Nicolai Gedda. Handel's *Agrippina* will be sung April 28—the lengthy recitative

replaced by the mischievous narration of Pippin, so listeners can get right to Handel's good stuff. Pocket Opera will perform all its works at the East Bay's Claremont Hotel, from May 12 through June 30 (Info: 398-2220). Tickets to the Theatre on the Square performances: 433-9500.

★ ★ ★

The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presents "A Jubilant Song," music by Schubert, Purcell, Shostakovich, and Gershwin, Friday April 12 and Sunday April 21. Info: 863-0342. ■

J. F. Karr

## Baton

(Continued from page 28)

quitous Jean-Pierre Rampal, brilliant cellist Lynn Harrell, oboist Heinz Holliger, and a happy Christmastime "homecoming" for Edo de Waart, who will conduct Mozart's orchestration of Handel's "Messiah."

I suppose any year that includes Janacek's *Glagolitic Mass* and a complete performance of Handel's oratorio "Solomon" is worthwhile, but wait—there's Copland's *Organ Symphony*, William Schuman's "A Song of Orpheus," some interesting sorties into contemporary Central Europe, and Elgar's seldom played, but marvellous *Violin Concerto*—now, how much would you pay?

The opening-night gala will seem blue for de Waart fans, but the exciting presence of Michael Tilson Thomas should lend elegance and sex appeal to the affair—yes, he is a heartbreaker in evening clothes and has talent to burn.

The future of the innovative "New and Unusual Music" series seems questionable without Maestro de Waart or outgoing Composer-in-residence John Adams to guide it, though

the Symphony swears it has no plans to scrap the programs.

As with just about every aspect of musical life at Davies Hall, only time will tell on the subject of new music.

No one can deny the positive effect Edo de Waart has had on orchestra morale and performance. The past eight years have seen a rather demoralized provincial orchestra spruce itself up to the point of international esteem, not to mention several highly admirable recording sessions that amply document their prowess.

'As to whether or not Herbert Blomstedt can sustain the momentum, while imprinting a personal vision, the answers are not readily forthcoming.'

As to whether or not Herbert Blomstedt can sustain the momentum, while imprinting a personal vision, the answers are not readily forthcoming. At least, not next season. Eight weeks simply won't be enough time.

Let us hope the de Waart-

inspired esprit can remain intact until Blomstedt assumes full responsibility. It would be more than a pity to see those eight important years wasted.

Herbert Blomstedt brings the promise of the heretofore untapped Scandinavian repertoire along with his reputation and, what appears to be a reasonable attitude toward programming and change.

He reiterated the importance of balance several times during his first press conference. Most important, he said, "Programming is a question of balance."

To please everyone is impossible, but to honestly make the attempt is imperative. I look forward to the Blomstedt years and wish him well. In the meantime, I'll thank Edo de Waart for so many years of committed artistry. ■

P. Campbell



Factwino, *The Opera*, a musical comedy by the San Francisco Mime Troupe

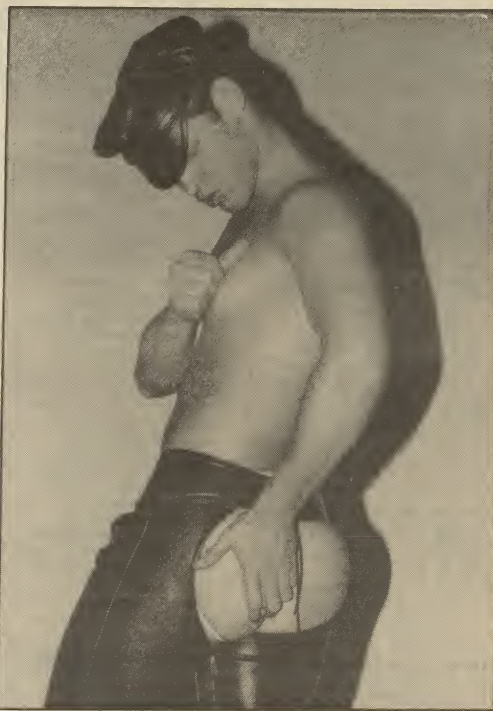


## 'Spunk' at Savages

Proving once again that there are erotic dancers who are almost beyond description, Scott O'Hara returned last weekend to Savages in an attempt to appease his legions of fans. There was a large, active safe-sex oriented Friday crowd that tingled with excitement every time a film loop ended, in anticipation of Scott's appearance as "Spunk," a nickname Scott more than lived up to.

Swaggering up to the stage in full leather, Scott spun around to reveal a bulging jockstrap, and then quickly turned to display his bare butt. Exclamations rose from the people in front. Twisting and gyrating to more and more frenzied New Wave hits, Scott/Spunk inched out of his leather, teasing the guys with the fabled contents of his straining supporter. Scott O'Hara won the Savages title "Biggest Dick-1984" against nine other contenders.

Finally revealing all, Scott jerked himself all over the front of the stage and up and down the aisles. Unlike other performers who are "touched" by the audience, the customers were too much in awe to even consider making contact with the erotic presence before them. As Scott stroked, many of the guys in the audience stroked, as if it was some huge 50-cylinder engine, with Scott on top as some kind of golden master-cylinder. His orgasm was met by applause, and a smile from Scott. No attitude here—he likes his au-



Scott 'Spunk' O'Hara (Photo: Rink)

dience and was genuinely friendly to those who rushed up afterwards to compliment his act.

Something unusual happens when Scott O'Hara performs. A spell is cast. When the song "Sex Crime" by the Eurythmics surged out of the speakers, Scott

became the embodiment of a pagan temple dancer—the manifestation of living gods who performed at state occasions thousands of years ago in return for great treasures.

Rink

## Bazaar Calendar

**Thursday 4/11: Mr./Miss Gay Open Meeting, Men's Room, 7:30 p.m.**

**Friday 4/12: CMC Open Meeting, call hotline at 821-3637 for details.**

**Bare Chest Contest, Arena, 10 p.m., MC: Marcus.**

**Leader of the Pack Party, Chaps, 10 p.m., host: Patrick Toner, a salute to SF/MCs, free.**

**Saturday 4/13: One Day Run, Cal Eagles, check in at 24th St. and Noe (3986 24th) 10 a.m., free, to San Jose, includes parties at Boot Rack and The Renegade w/drink specials. Dinner at David's at Main Street, special guests Force 5, info at 285-5975.**

**Memorial Service, Dwayne**

**Campbell; info at 558-8100, 4 p.m., wake at the Village, 5 p.m.**

**Imperial Launch, Casa Loma (Fell and Fillmore) 6 p.m., dinner in honor of Emp's Ken Wright and Sissy, show 9 p.m., \$3. Donation to Imperial travel fund. Hostess: Closet Ball Queen Deena Jones.**

**Roger's Birthday, Febe's, 9 p.m.**

**The Wagons and Man II Man present a benefit for the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank, buffet 7:30 p.m., show 9:30 p.m., \$5, dancing til dawn.**

**Sunday 4/14: Tax Break Run, CMC, check-in: 12 noon, at SF-Eagle, \$5.99; MC sight (under freeway), Chaps, SF Eagle. Tax deductions earned during run will determine win-**

**ner. Prizes. Call hotline at 821-3637 for details.**

**CMC Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6.**

**Monday 4/15: April Harvest, Theater on the Square, 8 p.m., to benefit Mobilization Against AIDS, \$10 and \$15, featuring: Kimo, Val Diamond, Ruth Hastings, Tom Ammiano, and more. Tickets at Headlines, Walt Whitman, Chaps. Call 928-5598 for details.**

**Wednesday 4/17: Ramshead Rita and Miss Piggy Roast, Queen Mary's Pub, 8 p.m., to benefit the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Hosts: Tenderloin bartenders.**

**Compiled by Karl Stewart and Remy**

## WILD AND WOOLLY

"Visconti and his assistant, a young man named Zefferelli, met me in a tea room and said they'd give me \$3.50 ..." — Marcello Mastroianni.

"Never accept a drink from a urologist." — Erma Bombeck.

"... a marriage with odd, sad shadows. There are lesbianism and homosexuality on a mind-game level, hints of impotence and strange theories (Scott's) about the relationship between celibacy and creativity ... and his 30s crisis that left him fibbing about his age like some fretting starlet." — Larry Lee reviewing *Invented Lives: The Marriage of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald*.

"Hiroshima? Well, I think that's the new Oriental boutique on 59th at Third ave." — Twiggy.

"Your home-grown garden variety faggot has three possibilities: flower, vegetable, or beer." — Thelma Ritter.

B. Woolhouse



David tries a tricky shot at Chaps' weekly pool tournament. For more information, phone 552-4983. (Photo: Rink)

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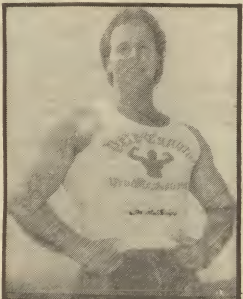
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